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## THE REPORTER

Vol. 64 No.3

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Look for these icons throughout the issue for links to additional online content:











# Everyone should have the opportunity like I did—like you did—to be a union Boilermaker. <sup>1</sup>



## The privilege of union membership is to share it

grew up poor. I know what it's like to have less than others, because as a child, I lived with want. I lived with the worry and the fear and the stress that cast their dark shadows over families who don't know where the money will come from to feed their children.

It is no exaggeration to say the Boilermakers union changed my life and lifted my family out of poverty. Steady, union Boilermaker work provided for us, protected us, set me on my own solid career path as a young adult and, later, gave me the chance to provide for my own family.

Our union's priority is to intensify our organizing and recruiting efforts-to give more hardworking people the opportunity at a better life through our Boilermakers union. For me, that is personal. Deeply personal. Everyone should have the opportunity like I did-like you did-to be a union Boilermaker. We need to make certain they have that right.

That's what we're doing, together. As a union, we are focused on organizing and recruiting to bring more people into the middle class. To make sure people have a voice on their jobsites. To make sure our future brothers and sisters work in safe environments and are treated fairly in their workplaces. To grow our union, build our strength and continuously improve who we are as Boilermakers today, tomorrow and into an infinite future.

As Boilermakers privileged to belong to this union, it is our obligation to bring in a minimum of two people: one to replace us when we retire into our well-deserved rest and another to help us grow our organization.

To be clear: This is not just about numbers. Our work in organizing and recruiting affects the struggling single mother who is the sole provider for her family-the mother who visited our booth at a career fair and learned about our trade; who we actively recruited and now has a career, financial stability and a good life as a Boilermaker.

It affects the father who, because of his job at a Boilermaker-represented shipyard, is able to pay for his children to become first-generation university graduates.

It affects the tens of thousands who, because of their Boilermaker-negotiated contracts and safety standards, come home safely every day from their jobs.

It affects you, me and all who have the honor to call ourselves Boilermakers.

It is incumbent upon us, and it is up to us, to help more hardworking Americans and Canadians into the middle class, into our union and to share in the benefits of a stronger, better International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. So together, shoulder to shoulder, that is what we will do.

> Timothy Simmons International President

# ISO conference ignites energy for organizing

Operations Conference, there was no mistaking the union's priority: Organizing. The theme "Organizing Our Future" permeated the conference, July 30 to Aug. 1 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, igniting excitement to join bold efforts to grow the union and to give more workers a voice on the job. Attendance was just shy of 300, including Boilermakers in Industrial Sector lodge leadership roles, officers, staff, vendors and guests.

"This union was not formed in the shadows, but on the streets," International President Timothy Simmons reminded attendees in the opening plenary session. "It was formed by men and women who refused to sit idly by while their fellow workers were singled out and targeted by the companies they worked for. It was formed by those who rose up and demanded a living wage. It was formed by those who stood together, shoulder to shoulder, and fought so that you and I could have better wages, safer working conditions and a seat at the table of prosperity."

Powerful remarks by Simmons set the stage for an inspiring conference focused on building the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers' future and celebrating forward momentum. He reported that for the first time since 2021, the union is in the black, and he detailed the work and changes that have taken place to ensure union funds are properly accounted for and used to serve members.

"Let me be clear," he said, showing a slide detailing union accounting. "The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers is fiscally sound and preparing for unprecedented growth across all sectors."

He also talked about the union's investment in recruiting, organizing and strategically planned campaigns—which is already paying off in organizing wins and gains in ongoing campaigns.

The spotlight was on the Boilermakers who've led organizing efforts, illustrating the point that organizing is vital to the union and to those who become part of a unionized workforce. During the opening plenary session, organizers and International Reps gave lively testimonies highlighting recent organizing activities.



This union was not formed in the shadows, but on the streets...It was formed by those who rose up and demanded a living wage.

Timothy Simmons
International President

"This is why we do it," each said, punctuating their remarks as they shared photos and stories of the workers who will benefit from unionization. Some of the newly organized workers attended the conference and made a surprise appearance on stage to celebrate why organizing matters and to rally everyone to get involved.

"Everyone in this room benefits from those who paved the path before us by saying 'yes' to fight for union representation," said Don Hamric, Jr., Executive Director-ISO. "So, we organize because we have the privilege of being unionized workers and because we owe it to those who don't have that privilege yet... We organize because when we build our strength in the Boilermakers union, we build the strength of unionized workers everywhere."

Bookending the conference with a call to action, during his closing session remarks IP Simmons announced a new incentive program to encourage more Boilermakers to actively participate in the union's organizing efforts. Read details about



Whether we've met in person or not, we're Boilermakers and we look out for each other...we need to carry that same solidarity to promote good mental health.

Jason McInnis Canada - Director of Health & Safety

the Organizing Our Future Incentive Program on page 6.

"Brothers and sisters, will you stand with me and commit to working with the leadership of this labor union to help us regain the momentum we have lost and be a voice for those who are still struggling on their journey to economic prosperity?" he charged.

ental health also took top billing in conference topics. Canadian Health & Safety Representative Blair Allin, Director-Canadian Health & Safety Services Jason McInnis and Director of Health & Safety Services Mark Garrett stressed the importance of treating mental health with the same level of attention as physical health—especially for workers in construction and industrial industries.

McInnis noted that workers in the construction industry die from suicide at a rate three times higher than that of the general population.

"Let that sink in," he said. "These same hands that build and maintain the infrastructure that powers our nations—the same minds that solve complex problems under extreme pressure—are the same minds struggling with a crisis that's harming our brothers and sisters at an alarming rate."

With many taught early in their careers to bury their feelings or "leave their feelings at the gate," it is paramount to remove the stigma that taking care of mental health or giving attention to mental health is a sign of weakness.

In addition to addressing the full conference in the opening plenary session, Allin and McInnis led several multi-part breakout sessions, repeated throughout the week, to teach Boilermakers more about mental wellness, how to identify changes that might indicate a person is struggling and more. Garrett reminded everyone that the Boiler-makers union has materials and a program available to guide people to help. He said the goal is not for Boilermakers to become counselors, but to make sure people can find the help and resources they need.

Allin said that as Boilermakers it's the responsibility of brothers and sisters to look out for one another, notice when someone changes their behavior and start a conversation.

"We spend at least five days a week with our Boilermaker family—sometimes more than we spend with our own families," he said.

McInnis agreed: "Whether we've met in person or not, we're Boilermakers, and we look out for each other...we need to carry that same solidarity to promote good mental health. If you see a brother or sister who's not themselves, don't ignore it or assume someone else will handle it. Start the conversation. It might be uncomfortable, but it could save a life."

Also addressing the plenary audience was Director of Government Affairs Cecile Conroy, who gave an update on current legislation impacting Boilermakers and the labor movement. She walked through the Protect the Right to Organize Act, the Protect America's Workforce Act and measures in the Tax Reconciliation Bill, as well as tariffs.

Of special importance to Boilermakers working in federal shipyards and in areas under government contract, an executive order earlier this year eliminated federal workers' rights to collective bargaining under the guise that collective bargaining in the federal sector poses a "security threat." Conroy said some agencies have already cancelled con-

**Everyone** in this room benefits from those who paved the path before us by saying 'yes' to fight for union representation.



Don Hamric Jr. Executive Director - ISO

tracts with unions as a result. This directly impacts 850 dues paying Boilermaker members.

To combat the executive order and restore federal workers' bargaining rights, on July 17, the Protect America's Workforce Act was introduced in Congress as a discharge position. Unlike traditional bills, Conroy explained, discharge positions can go directly to the floor rather than through committee-but Representatives must be physically present to go to the congressional clerk to sign their name to the petition. If a majority of signatures is achieved, the bill is automatically passed in the House of Representatives and moves on to the Senate. With 218 signatures needed, the measure was only nine signatures shy when congress was abruptly recessed in July. Now that Congress is back in session, many trades are promoting efforts to spur representatives to add their signature.

s with past ISO Conferences, Boilermaker **1** attendees chose between an array of breakout sessions to build their leadership skills. Workshop topics included industry-specific training, such as railroad retirement and railroad's Federal Employers' Liability Act; Canadian- and U.S.-specific focuses on organizing, health and safety initiatives and pension and welfare plans; lodge leadership administration training, such as best practices for lodge finances, quarterly audits and LM and 990 reporting; general lodge and union business, such as steward training, grievance handling and Roberts Rules of Order; an open-forum legislative session; and general workshops on lodge websites, Boilermakers History Preservation Department



offerings and best practices for communications and social media.

One especially popular breakout session was a Women at Work panel facilitated by Erica Stewart, Diversity Organizer and Recruiting Coordinator, M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund.

The standing-room-only session featured four panelists—women who have risen to leadership roles in the Industrial Sector-addressing issues they've faced in the workplace, their career paths and bright spots on the job. Panelists were Martina Taite, president of Local 693 (Pascagoula, Mississippi); Shealynn Roberts, recording secretary of Local 290 (Bremerton, Washington); Helena Ringo, secretary-treasurer of Local 684 (Norfolk, Virginia) and Debora Quinn, president of Local 212 (Geneva, Ohio). Women Boilermakers were invited to attend a networking reception honoring Boilermaker Women at Work.

The general consensus among conference participants, as gathered in conference surveys and in conversation, was that the 2025 ISO conference maintained informational workshops and brought heightened energy.

"It was a good energy and a good audience," said Eddie Walker, president of Local 1999 (Norfolk, Virginia). He pointed out that there were many workshops he wanted to attend. "I went from

class to class soaking in as much as I could."

This is the second ISO conference he has attended, and he said it's important for him, as a lodge leader, to go: "I want to be part of the change I want to see."

At the conference close ED-ISO Hamric called on participants to do just that.

"Take the information back to your local lodge, share it with your brothers and sisters. Share it loud and proud. Don't let it die in the desert, let it ignite a fire in your lodge," he said. "It's not just about giving the best of our time and our efforts to what we're doing, but also giving the best to ourselves in opportunities to learn, to grow, to build our skills—to do better and to be better.

"We are better today because of the 145 years of honorable Boilermakers who went before us. We must do better today for those who will go next... Show up. Participate and encourage others to get involved—because that's what Boilermakers do."











# New program incentivizes Boilermakers to organize

s announced by International President
Timothy Simmons during the 2025 Industrial Sector Operations Conference in Las
Vegas in July, the International Executive Council
unanimously voted to launch a new program that
provides incentives to Boilermakers who boost the
union's organizing efforts.

The Organizing Our Future Incentive Program rewards Boilermakers for identifying work-places that are potentially viable for organizing campaigns, for assisting with active organizing campaigns and for supporting newly organized workplaces through their first successful contract.

"Right now, our union is approximately 44,000 members strong in North America. This means we have an incredible network of members and local lodges ready to mobilize to grow our membership," said IP Simmons in an August letter to local lodges, kicking off the program. "Every Boilermaker has a friend, neighbor or acquaintance who needs representation in their workplace. These future union members deserve fair wages and benefits, safer working conditions and a voice on their jobsites. They need the support of a labor union, and it is our duty to help them."

The program is divided into two member-led components: lead generation and member-led organizing outreach. Following is a summary of those components:

#### Lead generation incentive

An active Boilermaker completes an organizing lead form. The lead is then researched by the organizing team. If the lead is deemed to be viable, the organizing team then begins activities and efforts toward organizing, and the Boilermaker and their local lodge is rewarded as follows:

Incentive to Member		Incentive to Member's Local Lodge
Successful filing of a petition	\$500	\$500
Successful election result	\$500	\$500
Successful ratification of new Collective Bargaining Agreement at the new unit	\$1,000	\$1,000
Total Potential Incentive	\$2,000	\$2,000

#### Member-led generation incentive

An active Boilermaker member volunteers for organizing training provided by IBB. After training is completed, the Boilermaker researches potential leads and reports on their organizing activities. When the Boilermaker finds a viable organizing opportunity, the union then assists them in building consensus, filing a petition and monitoring the campaign and supplies legal and informational support as needed. To qualify for the incentive, the bulk of the concerted organizing activity must be the responsibility of the member.

Successful campaigns are rewarded as follows:

Units with 50 and under Bargaining Unit Employees	Units with 51+ Bargaining Unit Employees
\$1,000	\$2,000

After the campaign is successful, an active Boilermaker member can be rewarded for continued support of the unit. When the unit ratifies its first collective bargaining agreement, if the Boilermaker continues to work with the unit to sign up new members, they will receive an additional \$50 for each member who joins within the first 60 days.

For example: If a Boilermaker files an organizing petition, has a successful campaign generating a new unit of 100 new members and works to have them all join as members at the ratification of the new collective bargaining agreement, the Boilermaker would receive \$7,000 for their effort.

"Current data proves the time is ripe for organizing," Simmons said in his letter. "In the United States alone, 70% of Americans approve of labor unions. We must not squander this favorable environment. The time is now to organize, both internally and externally."



For more information on the program, additional organizing training and more, visit

www.JoinIBB.org



# Boilermakers win Nichiha vote to unionize

his past July, workers at Nichiha in Macon, Georgia, voted in favor of unionizing with the Boilermakers union. More than 250 workers turned out for the vote, with 55% voting "yes" for the union. Nichiha manufactures fiber cement siding panels that are primarily used in residential construction.

Southeast Area Organizer Carlos Brooks led organizing efforts, which began several months prior. Among his organizing tactics, he used texting and social media campaigns, as well as flyers and other visual material. Most important, Brooks and others maintained a Boilermaker presence at the Nichiha facility to talk with workers and answer questions.

"This was a highly vocal campaign," Brooks said. "I spent significant time at the gates and responding to employees' concerns via text messages."

He said that throughout the campaign workers raised serious concerns about their work environment, including promised raises that were never delivered, unsafe and extremely hot working conditions, unfair promotion practices and more. Nichiha's attempts to discredit the Boilermakers union failed.

"The success of this campaign was led by Brother Brooks and assisted by Erica Stewart (Diversity Organizer and Recruiting Coordinator, M.O.R.E. WIF)," said Don Hamric, Executive Director-ISO/

Director of Research and Collective Bargaining. "They used their years of experience as union leaders to listen to the employees' grievances and offered suggestions on how to combat those grievances."

Several Boilermakers from Brooks' home local L-D23 (Clinchfield, Georgia) also assisted with the campaign: retiree Milton Taylor, secretarytreasurer Edwin Allen, Jr. and trustee chairman Riccardo Askew.

"Ultimately, Nichiha workers' unity and determination made this win possible," Brooks said. "It's a milestone that will shape a better future for them and their families, and it's the beginning of positive changes ahead."

The Nichiha win came on the heels of another victory Brooks led organizing Sherwin-Williams in Birmingham, Alabama, a campaign he began simultaneously with the Nichiha campaign. The M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund has supported these organizing efforts.

"I'm excited about the future of our union and the futures of these workers who are joining us as Boilermaker brothers and sisters," Brooks said. "This organizing work makes me proud to be a union Boilermaker. These are more hardworking Americans who will have the voice on the job they deserve."



Ultimately, Nichiha workers' unity and determination made this win possible. It's a milestone that will shape a better future for them and their families, and it's the beginning of positive changes ahead.

> Carlos Brooks Southeast Area Organizer



# SoCal Trojan Battery workers vote yes to unionize

fter a hard-fought organizing campaign, workers at two Santa Fe Springs, California, Trojan Battery facilities voted Aug. 20 in favor of unionizing with the Boilermakers. Out of 306 workers in the facilities, 282 voted, with a final of 151 to 131 for unionization. The victory was the second to take place on the same day for Western States organizers, who also celebrated a favorable vote at Mountain Cement Company in Laramie, Wyoming.

Trojan Battery has existed for 100 years, operating nonunion for a full century—until now. Before the Boilermaker win, there were four prior unsuccessful organizing attempts by other unions.

"As a union, this really plants a flag in the West for the Boilermakers, with our gains at NASSCO last year, our recent win at Mountain Cement Co. and now this," said Western States Director of Organizing Manny Valenzuela. "It's just really good for all Boilermaker members and for organized labor."



# This means a lot to me. Finally, my co-workers and I will be able to negotiate for the working conditions we deserve.



Cesar Lopez Trojan Battery machine operator

Valenzuela noted that organizers faced an especially steep uphill battle to build trust and win over workers. For starters, workers who weathered the previous failed organizing attempts had a bad taste for unions due to circumstances surrounding those initiatives.

Trojan Battery worker Cesar Lopez was among those who were skeptical of the Boilermakers—at first. Lopez, who is a burner and machine operator, has worked for Trojan for over 24 years. Before signing his card, he asked his son to research the union for him. His son came back with his research and advised his dad to sign on, citing the good work Boilermakers do throughout the U.S. and Canada. He noted the issues the union faced in addressing past leadership corruption; but, he told Lopez, "they resolved the problems, and they're doing good things." Lopez said that motivated his decision to sign his card and get involved with the campaign.

Another challenge organizers fought against was heightened U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement activity. With much of the Trojan Battery worker population being Latino and a surge in ICE activity in the area and nationwide, the vital door-knock visits from organizers to speak one-onone with workers were especially hard to come by. Legally authorized workers and U.S.-born citizens alike were afraid to open their doors to strangers, fearful that ICE agents, detainment or other consequences might be on the other side.

"It took a lot of extra work to get this campaign done," said Valenzuela. Organizers began in March, along with several other Southern California facilities. In June, the team decided to focus solely on Trojan Batteries.

Western States organizers, plus several Local 92 (Los Angeles) Boilermakers from NASSCO shipyard stepped up efforts together. While the L-92 members lent a hand they also learned valuable organizing skills that will benefit their internal organizing efforts at NASSCO, which is an open shop. Those skills will also transfer to prepare them for upcoming contract negotiations.

"You can put someone in a classroom setting to learn about organizing—and that teaches a lot, but getting out and working alongside seasoned organizers is a whole different level of learning," Valenzuela said. "Plus, the Trojan workers got to interact with Boilermakers. So it wasn't just professional organizers, but real rank-and-file Boilermakers speaking with them. That made a difference in earning their trust. In the end it was close, but we got it done."

L-92 BM-ST Nick Garcia said it was gratifying to work on the campaign, learn and witness the movement grow in favor of the union.

"It's a huge win for us and a step in the right direction. Three hundred members is a great step forward for our local," he said. "It was a joy to see the workers and organizers fight for the union and convince people—really up to the minute."

Garcia noted that Lopez, the worker whose son researched the Boilermakers union for him, became so enthusiastic about unionizing, his zeal rubbed off on his daughter, who is in a completely unrelated line of work. She joined her dad to help the cause.

"This means a lot to me," Lopez said of the unionization victory. "Finally, my co-workers and I will be able to negotiate for the working conditions we deserve."

Valenzuela said the Western States wins set the tempo in the area.

"The time is now," he said. "If you don't organize, you die." 🌢

## Mountain Cement workers vote to unionize with 63% support

t Mountain Cement in Laramie, Wyoming, where two massive rotary kilns fire day and night, workers have won a hard fight for union representation that will echo across Wyoming's labor movement for years to come. With a 63% vote, the entire 110-person workforce including quarry crews and truck drivers to operators, lab technicians, mechanics, electricians and shipping staff, chose to stand together and vote to unionize. The only job classification excluded was the security guard at the front gate.

This victory came despite fierce opposition. Management hired outside consultants to run mandatory two-hour meetings, pushing fear and misinformation to employees in a constant drip. While workers stood their ground, the company got hit with 10 unfair labor practice charges.

The organizing committee—an eclectic crew of cowboys, bikers and veterans—embodied the toughness of the Wyoming workforce, equipped with the grit needed to overcome management and their union-busting consultants. Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer Robert Gallegos, the Local 101 Executive Board and stewards backed the organizers every step of the way.

"The organizing committee worked with dedication and drive. I was privileged to work alongside them in our unionization campaign," Gallegos said.

Western States organizer Pablo Barrera led the campaign, which was built from the ground up.

Workers from Mountain Cement contacted organizers through FormaUnion.com in the spring. During the campaign, the organizing committee put up flyers at auto stores, posted flyers in stores and restaurants across Laramie and ran social media ads to counter the company's anti-union messaging.

"It was an honor to work with the organizing committee, one of the strongest committees I've seen in the last 30 years," Barrera said.

In addition to the committee, churches, small businesses and political leaders lent their support, and the local newspaper broadcast the story to the wider community.

According to the Wyoming AFL-CIO, the state hasn't had a union election of this size, or a union win of any size, in the last 15 years.

"This was a dogfight. But we didn't back down," said Barrera. "This organizing victory ensures greater opportunities, stronger representation and a more secure future for Wyoming's working families. I'm ready for the next run."

As Mountain Cement prepares to expand production through its K3 project, potentially doubling the workforce, the Boilermakers' win ensures all workers will face that future with strong representation and a secure voice on the job.

As far as organizing Wyoming's workers, the fight has only just begun.





Shane Backes and the Mad Scientist Racing team get set to carry the Boilermaker seal around the track at The Glen at the Aug. 8 ARCA Menards Series race.

## **Boilermakers union sponsors ARCA driver**

he International Brotherhood of Boilermakers signed on as a sponsor with ARCA driver Shane Backes and Mad Scientist Racing in late July to promote the union to race fans.

Backes' Chevrolet Super Sport has prominently displayed the Boilermakers union seal, as has his fire suit, since debuting at the August 8 ARCA Menards Series race at Watkins Glen International in New York. The race at The Glen was the first of five included in the Boilermakers' sponsorship.

ARCA racing is sanctioned by NASCAR, and the ARCA Menards Series is a feeder series for NASCAR.

"We are constantly looking for new ways to attract and recruit the next generation of union Boilermakers," said International President Timothy Simmons. "This ARCA Menards series is an incredible opportunity to introduce many racing fans to a new career path in the Boilermakers."

At The Glen and at the next race in Madison, Wisconsin, Boilermaker representatives distributed flyers advertising the trade as a great career choice and as a resource for organizing nonunion workplaces. Flyers included QR codes linking to the union's recruiting and organizing websites. Representatives also handed out branded drink koozies with the same QR codes at a Boilermakers booth at the Sept. 11 race in Bristol, Tennessee. In Bristol and the next race in Kansas City, Kansas, Meta and geofenced digital ads served ads to smartphones in the track and surrounding area throughout the race weekends.

The final race in the sponsorship is set for Phoenix, Arizona, Nov. 1.



We look forward to introducing many racing fans to a new career path in the Boilermakers."

> **Timothy Simmons** International President



# Boilermakers tee up the best for Callaway

rofessional golfers around the world trust their game to the name Callaway. So, who does Callaway trust their name to-their reputation for consistency and cutting-edge "flies fast, flies true" excellence? Local 1851 Boilermakers in Chicopee, Massachusetts.

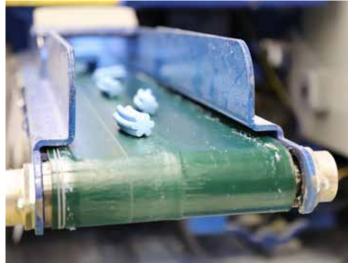
Boilermakers from L-1851 (Springfield, Massachusetts) have been working in the Chicopee facility that produces Callaway golf balls since 1982. When the union first organized there, the plant was owned by Spalding and produced a variety of sporting goods items, including Top-Flite golf clubs and balls. In 2003, Callaway purchased the Top-Flite brand's assets, which included the facility. Callaway modernized operations and turned the plant into the advanced golf ball manufacturing facility it is today.

"You wouldn't think of Boilermakers working in a golf ball factory," says Marrie Francisco, who is a special inventory specialist and has worked in the facility for 27 years. "But we are part of the Boilermakers team, and we make golf balls."

High-end golf balls. Some of the best in the world in an incredibly competitive industry.

"It's a very competitive industry," says Dave Melanson, Callaway's Director of Product Engineering. "A lot of manufacturers make really good products, and what we've found is many times the advantages are in the margins. Thousandths of an inch can be the difference in good performance or a ball going offline or falling out of the sky."

One of Francisco's tasks is packaging and shipping balls to professional tour players worldwide. She says the tour players can tell what core is in the ball: "We need to make sure it's right every single time."



Fresh Callaway golf ball cores come down the conveyor.

"It takes precision technology and precision, premium equipment to do that, as well as a highly trained workforce and a team to make that happen," says Joe DeSantis, Director, Manufacturing, Callaway Golf.

Tee up the Callaway operation's nearly 300 Boilermakers: from Francisco in shipping to her union brothers and sisters who prepare the core material, who move product from stage to stage, who maintain parts and technologically complex machinery and everything in between.

"Everything is detailed meticulously," says Jason Belmer, who is a maintenance materials expediter. "From the operators to the setup techs to the specialists, down to the packing line. If one of these departments isn't working right, it's going to alter every department after it. Teamwork is a big thing here at Callaway."

And union solidarity is a major factor in the strong teamwork culture.





"Basically, that's what the Boilermakers do," Francisco says. "We're here to help each other. To build each other stronger."

Adds Belmer: "At the end of the day, we're all one solid team. Solidarity. Which is what the union is all about, solidarity."

On the management side, DeSantis agrees: "It's a great union shop, and we work in unison together every day."

Teamwork and solidarity create a desirable workplace, and jobs at Callaway are prized in Chicopee. Belmer, for example, first came to work at the company as a temp, having relocated to the area and previously working at a piano factory. After a month, he was just one out of about 30 people to get hired full time. It's not uncommon for Boilermakers to have worked at the facility for decades.

Melanson says collaboration is one of the keys to maintaining a good work environment and retaining a good workforce—learning from people and mentoring people "to make a really cool product and hopefully make us a place they want to keep coming back to 40 hours a week. That's meaningful."

It's meaningful to the people who work at Callaway and to the end product they ship out the door.



We make one of the best golf balls in the world, and that's something to take pride in. It's a big, big deal.

Jason Belmer L-1851 Boilermaker



A Boilermaker pulls core material as part of the prep process.

"The knowledge and experience and commitment people have here to understand that the craftsmanship matters, the attention to detail matters, and taking that seriously—that's what makes a good product," Melanson says. "Callaway has recognized the value that gets poured into our product by having it here in Chicopee. The long tenure of many people here and the experiences and the ability to pass that information and knowledge on to the next generation that's coming in the door-that's a sustainable thing."

But it might not have happened. Before Callaway came onto the scene, there was fear that the prior operations would move overseas, according to Francisco.

"But Callaway invested in us. They invested in our people," she says. "You need that in the United States. It's what we're supposed to do."

And when she and her Boilermaker co-workers see that union-made, American-made Callaway ball on the tee, televised worldwide during a pro tour-the ball they made-there's wellearned pride.

"When we watch on TV and we see it, we're proud; very, very proud," she says.

"We make one of the best golf balls in the world, and that's something to take pride in. It's a big, big deal," Belmer says.

It's not just pride in the product, but also the work itself.

"There's pride in what you do," he says. "There's pride in how you work with people. There's pride in what you present to the company as well, and pride in the work you do when others aren't looking, too."

And that's what makes Callaway golf balls the best.

Meet some of the L-1851 Boilermakers who make Callaway Golf Balls. Scan this QR code to watch our video



# **Union Pacific announces \$85** billion Norfolk Southern buy out

nion Pacific has unveiled plans for an \$85 billion acquisition of Norfolk Southern that, if approved, would create the first U.S. transcontinental freight railroad. According to a Union Pacific press release, the combined network would cover more than 50,000 miles across 43 states and connect to around 100 ports, uniting Union Pacific's western reach with Norfolk Southern's eastern operations.

The railroads say the deal would streamline supply chains by eliminating handoffs at major interchange hubs such as Chicago, potentially cutting transit times by up to two days. Supporters assert the merger would make rail freight more competitive with trucking and improve service in regions like the Ohio Valley and the Mississippi River watershed.

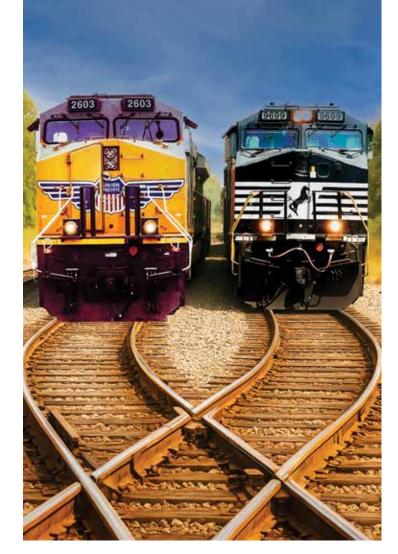
The trade association The American Fuel and Petrochemical Manufacturers warns the deal could worsen service issues for refiners and chemical shippers, while some labor unions, including SMART Transportation Division, have raised alarms over potential job cuts, safety and worker rights-issues in which the Boilermakers union is always concerned.

Director of Railroad Services John Mansker has confidence that the union's railroad employees won't lose their jobs. "I don't think it will affect any of our members," Mansker said. "Union Pacific said all union members will keep their jobs."

Mansker said Boilermaker members are welders and shopcraft workers. And while some may have to change shops if the Union Pacific buy out goes through, he believes the railroad's promise to keep all union workers employed.

"There are several places—like Chicago—where both the UP and Norfolk Southern have shops. They're going to pick the better of the two shops and use that. They will move the people over to the other shop."

Both Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern have stated that nothing would change for the next 18 to 24 months. If the acquisition is approved, there



will be a waiting period for public comment during which all the unions affected will have a say.

The Surface Transportation Board, a federal agency charged with the economic regulation of various modes of surface transportation, requires mergers and acquisitions demonstrate both public benefits and preserved competition. If approved, the merger would shrink the number of major freight carriers from six to five.

Union Pacific and Norfolk Southern plan to submit their application within six months and hope to finalize the acquisition by early 2027. 🤚



**L** Union Pacific said all union members will keep their jobs.

> John Mansker Director of Railroad Services



L-128 BM-ST Stirling Munn speaks at a press conference announcing \$5.7 million in funding from the Ontario government for training. The building in the background is the new facility in Sudbury, Ontario.

## Ontario government provides \$5.7 million in funding to Boilermakers

**♦** he Ontario government announced more than \$13 million in funding through the Skills Development Fund to train over 1,000 workers and jobseekers in Sudbury and nearby communities for high-demand careers. Local 128 (Toronto) is set to receive a significant share of the investment—over \$5.7 million—to expand its training capacity and strengthen opportunities for Boilermakers and apprentices in the region.

The union will use the money to purchase new equipment for its existing Burlington Training Centre and help to fund a new facility in Sudbury. Construction on the Sudbury facility is well underway and is anticipated to be completed by December.

The new facility will enable L-128 to double its training efforts, with more than 660 new and existing members expected to benefit.

"This is much more than a new building," Local 128 BM-ST Stirling Munn said during a press conference. "The construction you see behind us is evidence of the demand for Boilermakers within Northern Ontario and throughout the province. This new training center also serves as evidence of the strong commitment that the Ontario government under Doug Ford's leadership has to strengthening the Province's ability to train and grow a strong and resilient workforce of men and women who will build and maintain our vitally important industrial and energy sectors."

In addition to hands-on skills, participants will earn safety certifications and receive instruction on operating telehandlers and elevated work platforms. This training builds upon existing programs that further prepare members to work on energy and construction projects across Ontario.

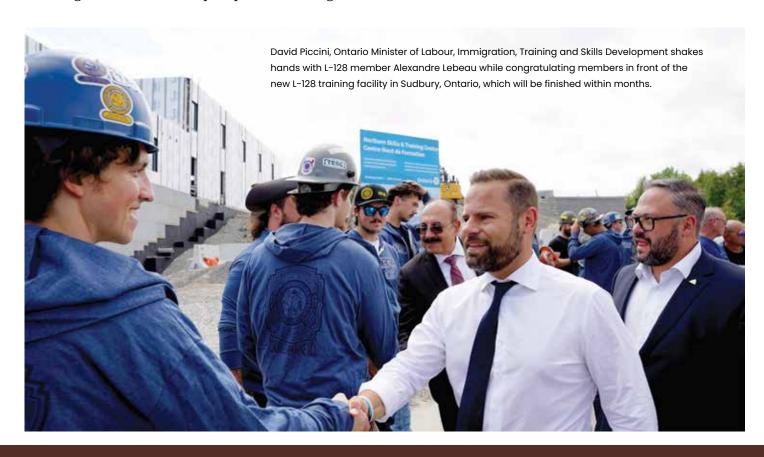
"We were thrilled with the funding," said Jonathan White, Director of CSO for Canada. "It is tremendously encouraging to see the Province invest in our members and in our efforts to train the men and women that are imperative to leveraging the potential of the North and to capitalize on our abundance of critical minerals."

The funding underscores the Province's recognition of the Boilermakers' essential role and highly specialized skills. From energy production to major construction and industrial projects, Boilermakers keep key sectors running safely and efficiently. With increased demand for qualified tradespeople, Local 128's expanded training will help ensure workers in Northern Ontario are ready to meet industry needs.

This investment is part of the Province's larger \$2.5 billion Skills Development Fund, designed to equip workers with the skills required for stable, well-paying jobs while helping businesses remain competitive in a global economy. Since the fund's launch, nearly \$146 million has been directed to projects and organizations across Northern Ontario.

For the Boilermakers, the \$5.7 million in funding represents more than new equipment and a facility. This grant gives the local an opportunity to equip the next generation, strengthen local communities and build a stronger workforce for the future.

"The SDF Funding announcement today, demonstrates alignment of perspectives, and a shared goal to see Ontario prosper and meet growing demand for energy and critical minerals," Munn said. "There will always be challenges that accompany prosperity and growth—such as reducing bureaucratic barriers that unnecessarily delay projects—or ensuring we have sufficient trained and highly skilled Boilermakers to complete the new builds while at the same time having the necessary workforce to maintain our existing industrial facilities."





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Today.

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# Grant puts L-627 Boilermaker's voice to work for Arizona pipeline

anielle Manygoats knew when she was in high school that she wanted to pursue a career in welding. She knew it paid well and she knew welders were always in high demand.

She didn't waste time getting started. She graduated high school early in Flagstaff, Arizona, to attend Tulsa Welding School and earn her welding certificate. One of her welding school friends scored a lead on a job out of Local 101 (Denver), where Manygoats got hired as a permit worker and cut her teeth in the Boilermaker trade.

"They were explaining that there's a union local lodge in just about every state," she recalls. "I got lucky, because I found mine in Arizona at 18 years old."

She went back to her home state and indentured with Local 627 (Phoenix). Over her 16 years with the Boilermakers, she became a journeyman and

has served as a foreman, steward and general foreman on projects.

"My career as a Boilermaker has taken me to many places, levels and heights," she says. "I'm really fond of the field. I love being out there and getting dirty and doing the work!"

But she isn't just passionate about working in the profession, she's also passionate about telling anyone she can about the Boilermaker career path. And through a BuildItAZ grant, that's exactly what she's able to do as a fulltime recruiter, since April. The grant focuses on recruiting young adults in Native American communities—familiar territory for Manygoats, who is Navajo.

L-627 Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer Jacob Evenson had her in mind when he applied for the grant to fund a fulltime recruiter. Arizona State Governor Katie Hobbs and the Arizona Office

of Economic Opportunity had put out the call for grant applications with BuildItAZ, a new apprenticeship initiative designed to build a pipeline and pathway to family-sustaining jobs in the state's construction industry. BuildItAZ's goal is to double Arizona's registered apprenticeship numbers to meet construction demands as the energy industry swells to fulfill data center, semiconductor plants and other growing megawatt gobbling industries.

More than \$1 million in grants was awarded in the early Spring 2025 cycle, of which L-627 was awarded \$106,000 to pay a full-time recruiter and cover recruiting expenses, such as promotional material, giveaways and booth costs.

"We're short-handed on staff at the hall, and everyone is busy and can't get to career fairs and such. With so much work coming up, we needed workers," Evenson says. "I knew Danielle would be a good fit as a recruiter and to talk to young people and people from the Navajo Nation and other tribes. She has a long history of experience in the field, and her pathway to the Boilermakers is a good story for new people thinking about the trades."

In her role, Manygoats attends job fairs and community events and visits anywhere she can set up a booth, hand out flyers and talk up the trade. She's even led a call with 13 tribes in the Tribal Board to explain what the Boilermakers union is, and she's arranged for apprentice candidates to be bussed to the union hall to visit and apply.

"Visiting Native American communities, I see grandmothers, grandfathers and parents who are pushing and encouraging their sons and daughters to join the trade" Manygoats says. "I especially want to reach more Native Americans, such as Pima or Gila River tribes. These communities have more financial support from their tribal leaders."

These smaller tribal communities have more financial support, she explains, such as offering per capita benefits or stipends—financial benefits that tribal members can use to supplement their travel or to attend apprenticeship training, for example. Larger tribes, such as the Navajo Nation, don't receive such stipends. A career in the Boilermakers will mean earning good wages and benefits. For Native Americans, it also means working a project for a short period of time and having the ability to come back home to their communities.

"I tell people being a Boilermaker is a lifestyle. You can live wherever you want to live, because you travel to the job," she says. "So, you can live in your Native American community. You travel, make good pay and then live in your community between projects."

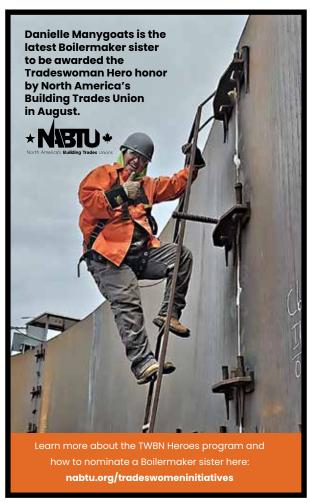
And when she talks to other women and younger girls about the Boilermakers, the key, she says, is telling her own story:

"When I say I've been a foreman and a steward leading people out in the field—when they hear my story—they're not so afraid. They can understand it's possible for women to be in this job and that women can guide men and be in command. And it's the same pay, same job, no difference for men or women. I share that it's not just welding, there are other aspects of it."

Between recruitment gigs, she helps with L-627's apprenticeship classes.

Evenson says he continues to explore other grant opportunities. He plans to apply for the next round of grant funding through BuildItAZ.

"You've got to watch for these opportunities and get involved politically," he advises. "And *apply*—even if you don't win the grant the first time, keep applying. There are a lot of grants out there."



### Data-center energy demands, recruitment top Ohio Valley agenda

he energy demand driven by data centers' power-supply grab continues to dominate conversations among Boilermakers, contractors and employers in Construction Sector Operations. It was a key topic at the Ohio Valley Tripartite in Lexington, Kentucky, July 16, as participants addressed construction growth and the need for reliable Boilermaker manpower. Attendance at the conference increased by about a third over the previous year.

According to Matt Faulkner, Director of Labor Relations for the Tennessee Valley Authority, TVA alone will need to double its energy output. TVA has myriad construction projects in process or in the wings, and they need Boilermakers, pronto. Mike Murphy, a consultant with Murphy Business Solutions, said the energy-demand increase is so pervasive, one could throw a dart toward a map of the U.S. and be guaranteed to hit an area in need of 25%, 50% or more in increased energy output.

"Demand growth is increasing, and it's increasing significantly," he said.

"We know the work that's coming in the next 10 years. We know that what we did in 60 years building electrification, we are going to need to double in the next 30 years," Faulkner said. "We're on the precipice of a changing energy environment."

That's good news for the energy industry—if there are enough skilled trades workers to man the work needed to achieve it. Faulkner noted that with abundant work and with 71% of people under age 35 showing favor toward unions, the time is ripe for trade union careers.

TVA is exploring solutions with all trades. For one, they are pushing for a more aggressive use of apprentices, encouraging contractors to use more apprentices. Faulkner pointed out that TVA has run for too long relying on older journey-level workers. They're also working on a pilot program with North Americas Building Trades Union that will help young adults aging out of America's foster care system enter apprenticeship programs. And, they're focusing on retaining workers at TVA by ensuring jobsites are good environments, workers are taken care of on the job and pride is purposefully instilled—so the workers they attract to the job and the career path want to stay.



"What we did in 60 years building electrification, we are going to need to double in the next 30 years. We are on the precipice of a changing energy environment.

Matt Faulkner
TVA Director of Labor Relations

It's hard work, but this opportunity is generational. There are Boilermakers working today whose grandparents and great-grandparents worked on TVA projects.

Faulkner gave credit to the multiple-decades relationship between TVA and the Boilermakers for the utility's success.

Brandon Buckle, Site Construction Manager for American Electric Power, also addressed the issue of manpower. He noted that AEP is more engaged with the building trades than ever before. He said talking at Vocational Technical schools about what the trades actually do is vital to recruitment, as is showing students what jobs really look like inside power plants and what these jobs ultimately provide for them in their own homes—lights, heat and air conditioning.

His own career path began as a construction sector Boilermaker.

"It was the best decision I ever made," he said. "I got to where I am today because of the Boiler-makers. I'd influence any kid to explore that opportunity."

Buckle is working with Enerfab on presentations he can take to vo-tech schools and on opportunities to bring students onto plant sites and projects to see firsthand what a contractor does and how they utilize different crafts. He wants students to visualize the future they can have working in the trades.

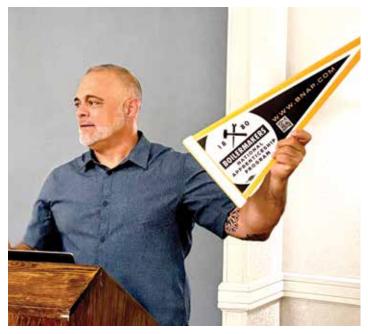
"We're getting buy-in to bring vo-tech kids into power plants, get them out on the 19th floor and show them what the heat feels like in there," he said. "We want to show them what goes on on a day-to-day basis. The craft is the future."

Mark Wertz, National Coordinator for the Boiler-makers National Apprenticeship program, stressed BNAP's focus on recruitment. BNAP has updated curriculum and created short videos breaking down Boilermaker skills. They've also set up exhibit booths to put the union Boilermaker career in front of good apprenticeship leads at major events, including the SkillsUSA national competition, FFA's national convention and the American School Counselors Association's annual conference. At ASCA, Wertz handed out pennants advertising the Boilermakers union and with a QR code linking to the BNAP program—a pennant high school guidance counselors can display on their walls along with pennants from colleges and universities.

IVP-Canada Arnie Stadnick gave an overview of recruitment in Canada, noting that local lodge tactics are key and allow locals to address nuances unique to their areas. He said technology, such as geofencing, is being used at the local lodge and national levels to promote the Boilermaker trade.

"Obviously, the theme here is recruitment," quipped Ohio Valley Tripartite conference organizer and International Rep Dan DeCarlo.

Additionally, Nathan Hyrne, Director of ClimateBright US-East for B&W, gave an update



BNAP National Coordinator Mark Wertz shows off the pennant given to high school counselors—complete with QR code to the BNAP program—to display on their walls alongside college and university pennants.

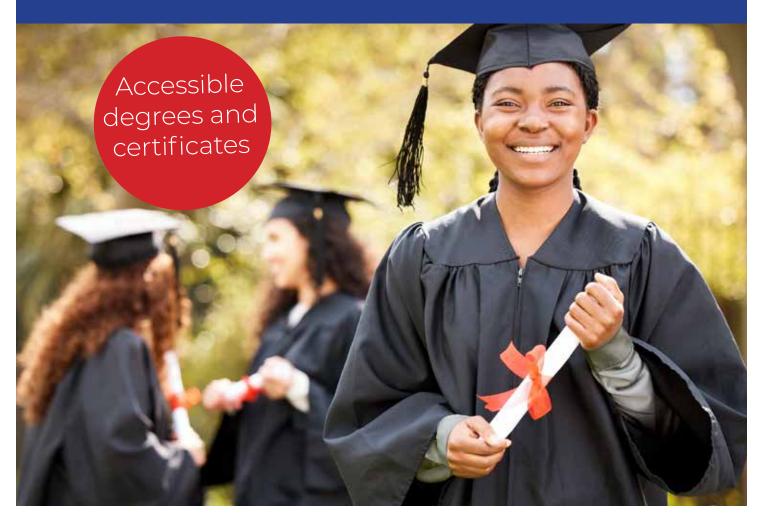
on clean energy strategies and the current state of regulations. He said that with the new administration's Environmental Protection Agency killing regulations and the previous administration's clean energy programs, incentives will be the only industry drivers. B&W has several ClimateBright initiatives in production or on tap, including a BrightLoop Hydrogen production facility in Massillon, Ohio, and projects in Baton Rouge, Louisiana, and Gillette, Wyoming.

International President Timothy Simmons addressed the issue of recruitment, the union's future and the tripartite concept.

"We are committed to working with you," he said, addressing owners and contractors specifically. "Every job opportunity—every hour a Boiler-maker is able to work—that's somebody out there working to put their kid through college, make a car payment or a mortgage payment. We are truly committed to bettering our craft, to developing new programs and to growing our union. We know there are contractors who would bid more work if they knew we could staff it.

"We need to know what you're seeing so we can better service this industry. If you don't have work, we don't have work."

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# 2025 School for Workers Institute hosts Boilermakers

Boilermakers Summer Institute basic and advanced sessions in Madison, Wisconsin. The program, presented through the University of Wisconsin, provides new and aspiring union leaders with both information and skills necessary to strengthen their representation of members. Sessions are led by School for Workers professors and International staff.

Thirty-five attendees at the 2025 basic session were: Matthew Motak, L-5 (New York City); Brad Mickatavage, L-13 (Philadelphia); Joseph Thornson, Michael Thayres, Leslie Squire, Emily Andrewson and Timothy Kyle, L-19 (Philadelphia); James Holland, L-92 (Los Angeles); Todd Murphy, L-580 (Halifax, Nova Scotia); Adam Desautels and Lincoln Chagnon, L-614 (New London, Connecticut); Max Bowers, L-647 (Minneapolis); DaQuell Smith and Benjamin Jeter, L-684 (Norfolk, Virginia); Martina Taite, Dennis Willis and Terrence Nellum, L-693 (Pascagoula, Mississippi); Kayla Borths, Leric Hess Sr. and Susan Otto, L-696 (Marinette, Wisconsin); Logan James, Sean Calvert and Dave Montaro, L-900 (Barberton, Ohio); James Mallett and Noe Santos L-1247 (Chicago); Charles Drew, L-1509 (Cudahy, Wisconsin); Dalton Campbell and Chris Barth, L-D455 (Selma, Missouri); Digital and Social Media Specialist Westen Smith; Executive Assistant to the International Secretary-Treasurer/Director of Human Resources Rhonda Befort: Internal Auditor Bill O'Brien; International Reps: David Gaillard, Fran Richardson, Tracey Eixenberger and Tim Tolley.

Nineteen attendees at the 2025 advanced session were: Antonio Sherman and Alexander Stanton, L-19 (Philadelphia); Robert Gonzalez, L-92 (Los Angeles); Robert Hodge, L-104 (Seattle); Gary Harpster, Johnny Connors, Tyler Todd, and Kealiikaleikanani Auyong, L-344 (Ridgecrest, California); Jesus Perez and Dominic Lucero, L-549 (Pittsburg, California); Dayon James and Anthony Oquendo, L-1247 (Chicago); Benjamin Simmons, L-D455 (Selma, Missouri); Director-Cement Lodge Services Steve Adair; International Reps: David Gaillard, Fran Richardson and Tim Tolley; Research Assistant-ISO Debbie Goodwin and Research and Collective Bargaining Services Assistant Brenna Holt.



Thirty-four Boilermakers attend the 66th Boilermakers Summer Institute basic session at School for Workers.



Nineteen Boilermakers attend the 66th Boilermakers Summer Institute Advanced session at School for Workers.

# **2025 Scholarship Winners**

he International Executive Council has announced the winners of the 2025 scholarship award program. The Boilermakers' scholarship committee was allotted \$100,000 to award in total, with \$74,000 earmarked for U.S. applicants and \$26,000 for Canadian applicants.

The union received 97 total eligible applications from Boilermaker dependents. The applicants were judged on their academic achievements, leadership skills, participation in extracurricular activities and a written essay.

#### **EDWARD POWER SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The IEC Scholarship committee has awarded the \$5,000 scholarship to the following Canadian applicant:



Angelina Anjelika Bird, stepdaughter of Local 359 (Vancouver, British Columbia) member Cory Hook, graduated from Garibaldi Secondary School and is seeking a Bachelor of Fine Arts in film production from the University of British Columbia.

TWO CANADIAN STUDENTS RECEIVE \$2,500 SCHOLARSHIPS

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$2,500 to the following Canadian applicants:



Emily Rose Petronski, daughter of Local 128 (Toronto) member Kevin Petronski, graduated from McKinnon Park Secondary School and is seeking a Bachelor of Science in Nursing from Western University.



Emma Jayde White, stepdaughter of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) member Morgan White, graduated from Hapnot Collegiate Institute and is studying psychology at the University of Calgary.

#### **SIXTEEN CANADIAN STUDENTS RECEIVE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS**

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$1,000 scholarships to the following Canadian applicants:

Grace Bahan, daughter of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) member John Bahan, graduated from All Saints High School and is studying geology at the University of Calgary.

Wendy Nora Patricia Dalton, daughter of Local 203 (St. John's, Newfoundland) member Donald J. Dalton graduated from Roncalli Central High and is seeking a Bachelor of Recreation degree at Memorial University of Newfoundland.



















Artem Havrysh











**Sophie Fisher**, daughter of Local D454 (Brookfield, Nova Scotia) member Larry Fisher, graduated from South Colchester Academy and is studying agriculture business at Dalhousie University Agricultural Campus.

Artem Havrysh, stepson of Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member Andrew Morais, graduated from Bathurst High School and is attending the University of New Brunswick, Saint John.

**Halle Ellen Joy**, daughter of Local 203 (St. John's, Newfoundland) member Craig Joy, graduated from Roncalli Central High and is studying kinesiology at Hill College.

**Taejun Kim**, son of Local 359 (Vancouver) member Byoungchul Kim, graduated from Harry Ainlay High School. Post-secondary education information was not available at the time of publication.

**Nakyoung Lee**, daughter of Local 359 (Vancouver) member Yuhyun Lee, graduated from Guildford Park Secondary and is studying film and screen arts at the Emily Carr University of Art + Design.

**Camryn Elizabeth McKay**, stepdaughter of Local 203 (St. John's, Newfoundland) member Kallum Clinton graduated from Northeast Kings Education Centre and is studying psychology at Acadia University.

**Christian David Nahuliak**, son of Local 555 (Winnipeg, Manitoba) member David Nahuliak, graduated from Dauphin Regional Comprehensive Secondary School and is studying computer science at University of Manitoba.

**Iris Okazaki**, daughter of Local 359 (Vancouver) member Peter Okazaki, graduated from Aldergrove Community Secondary School and is studying classical civilization at the University of Toronto, Mississauga.

**Isabella Brooke Prior**, daughter of Local 359 (Vancouver) member Roger Prior, graduated from Eric Hamber Secondary and is seeking a Bachelor of Science in kinesiology at Queen's University.

**Mya Marie Rojeski**, granddaughter of Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member Hector Gale, graduated from Belanger Memorial School and is studying applied forensic psychology at St. Francis Xavier University.

**Félix Thériault**, son of Local 73 (Halifax, Nova Scotia) member Frédéric Thériault, graduated from Polyvalente Louis-Mailloux and is studying at CCNB Peninsule Acadienne.

**Jessica Susan Wall**, daughter of Local 203 (St. John's, Newfoundland) member William Trevor Wall, graduated from Roncalli Central High and is seeking a Bachelor of Science at Memorial University of Newfoundland and Labrador.

**Averi Anne Weber**, daughter of Local D277 (Bamberton, British Columba) member Michael Weber graduated from Grandview Heights Secondary and is seeking a Bachelor of Science from the University of British Columbia.

**Matthew Zhang**, son of Local 146 (Edmonton, Alberta) member Yongsheng Zhang, graduated from Harry Ainlay High School and is studying engineering at the University of Alberta.

#### **CHARLES A. JONES SCHOLARSHIP AWARD**

The IEC Scholarship committee has awarded the \$5,000 scholarship to the following United States applicant:

**Jenna Madru**, daughter of Local 1851 (Springfield, Massachusetts) member Joseph Madru. She graduated from Chicopee High School and is seeking a degree in data science and business administration from Northeastern University.



Jenna Madru

#### TWO U.S. STUDENTS RECEIVE \$4,500 SCHOLARSHIPS

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$4,500 scholarships to the following U.S. applicants:



**Cooper Flinner,** son of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio) member Douglas Flinner, graduated from Gallia Academy High School and is studying nursing at Ohio University.



Morgan Workmar

**Morgan Workman**, stepdaughter of Local D174 (Louisville, Nebraska) member Kyle Manley, graduated from Gretna East High School and is studying architecture at the University of Nebraska, Lincoln.

#### TWO U.S. STUDENTS AWARDED \$3,500 SCHOLARSHIPS

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$3,500 to the following U.S. applicants:



Emma Jones

**Emma Rose Jones**, daughter of Local 27 (St. Louis, Missouri) member David Jones, graduated from St. Clair High School and is studying radiologic technology at Jefferson College.



Kenzie Tatka

**Kenzie Rose Tatka**, daughter of Local 900 (Barberton, Ohio) member Frank Tatka, graduated from Norton High School and is studying pre-medicine at Stark State College.

#### THREE U.S. STUDENTS RECEIVE \$2,500 SCHOLARSHIPS

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$2,500 to the following U.S. applicants:

Calista Faragalli, daughter of Local 290 (Bremerton, Washington) member Adam Faragalli, graduated from Washington State High School and is studying kinesiology at the University of North Dakota.

Amanda Victoria Mezydlo, daughter of Local 1 (Chicago) member Simon Mezydlo, graduated from Peotone High School and is studying environmental sustainability at Loyola University, Chicago.

**Hudson Thomas Lodder**, son of Local 69 (Little Rock, Arkansas) member Thomas Lodder, graduated from Cameron High School and is studying engineering technology architecture with civil emphasis at Metropolitan Community College, Penn Valley.



Callista Faragailli





#### **EIGHT U.S. STUDENTS RECEIVE** \$2,000 SCHOLARSHIPS

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$2,000 to the following U.S. applicants:

Bridger Lane Grimshaw, son of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri) member Kristin Grimshaw, graduated from Brookfield High School and is studying at Moberly Area Community College.









Patrick Monaghan









Natalia Marquette Hedgers, daughter of Local 502 (Tacoma, Washington) member Travis Hedgers, graduated from Washington State High School and is studying biomedical science at University of Washington.

Blake Daniel Huizenga, son of Local 60 (Peoria, Illinois) member Chad Huizenga, graduated from Morrison Community High School and is studying business management at Sauk Valley Community College.

Patrick Bailey Monaghan, son of Local 13 (Philadelphia) member Patrick Monaghan, Jr., graduated from Gloucester County Institute of Technology and is studying business administration at Seton Hall University.

**Alena Delilah Morales**, daughter of Local 92 (Los Angeles) member Carlos Morales, graduated from Torrance North High School and is studying electrical engineering at the University of California, Riverside.

**Joseph Ryan Smith**, son of Local 13 (Philadelphia) member Joseph Smith, graduated from Council Rock High School South and is studying finance at Ithaca College.

**Addison Monika Snow**, daughter of Local 647 (Minneapolis) member Steven Snow, Jr., graduated from Cambridge-Isanti High School and is studying biology at Anoka-Ramsey Community College.

**Ellie Brooke Thomas**, daughter of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio) member Jason Thomas, graduated from East Carter County High School and is studying computer aided drafting at Ashland Community and Technical College.

#### **ELEVEN U.S. STUDENTS RECEIVE \$1,500 SCHOLARSHIPS**

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$1,500 to the following U.S. applicants:

**Lillian Grace Cable**, daughter of Local 363 (East St. Louis, Illinois) member Ronald Cable, graduated from Vandalia Community High School and is studying elementary education at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville.

Celeste Crystal Davila, daughter of Local 92 (Los Angeles) member Roberto Davila, graduated from Cajon High School and is studying biochemistry at the University of California, Riverside.

**Isabelle Danielle Flamion**, daughter of Local 374 (Hobart, Indiana) member Brody Flamion, graduated from Southridge High School and is studying veterinary medicine at Hanover College.

Melina Sue Fry, daughter of Local 154 (Pittsburgh) member Brian Fry, graduated from United Jr-Sr High School and is studying law, criminal justice and society at the University of Pittsburgh.









Malina Fry







Gabrielle Kruyzinski









Francisco Hermosillo, son of Local 1247 (Chicago) member Francisco Hermosillo Lopez, graduated from Bishop Noll Institute and is studying philosophy, politics and economics at Wabash College.

Andrew Michael Jensen, son of Local 85 (Toledo, Ohio) member Jerad Jensen, graduated from Bedford Senior High School and is studying information systems at the University of Toledo.

**Gabrielle Kruszynski**, daughter of Local 900 (Barberton, Ohio) member Mark Kruszynski, graduated from Revere High School and is studying pre-nursing at The Ohio State University.

**Kenneth Lodder**, son of Local 69 (Little Rock, Arkansas) member Thomas Lodder, graduated from Cameron High School and is studying accounting at Missouri Western State University.

Ethan Kenneth Paplham, son of Local 487 (Kewaunee, Wisconsin) member Benjamin Paplham, graduated from Kewaunee High School and is studying exercise science at Lakeland University.

**Anneliese Marie Shatley,** daughter of Local 363 (East St. Louis, Illinois) member Michael Shatley, graduated from Southwestern High School and is studying communication sciences and disorders at Indiana State University.

**Aileen Transon**, daughter of Local 104 (Seattle) member Jeremy Transon, graduated from Washington State High School and is studying human resources management and international business at the University of Hawai'i, Mānoa.

#### THIRTEEN U.S. STUDENTS RECEIVE \$1,000 SCHOLARSHIPS

The IEC Scholarship Committee has awarded \$1,000 to the following U.S. applicants:

Natalee Jane Brown, daughter of Local 45 (Richmond, Virginia) member Timothy Takovich, graduated from Anne Arundel County Public Schools and is studying elementary education at Stevenson University.

Alex Carpenter, stepson of Local 802 (Chester, Pennsylvania) member Benjamin Hays, graduated from Sun Valley High school and is studying finance at Widener University.

**Kaylee Davis**, daughter of Local 363 (East St. Louis, Illinois) member Jeffrey Davis, graduated from Johnston City High School and is studying criminal justice and law enforcement at the University of Tennessee, Martin.

**Andrew Charles Edmonds**, son of Local 108 (Birmingham, Alabama) member Jason Edmonds, graduated from Citronelle High School and is studying history at the University of Alabama, Birmingham.

Katelyn Grace Howard, daughter of Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Kentucky) member Clinton Howard, graduated from Ohio County High School and is studying science and radiography at Owensboro Community and Technical College.

**Shila Brooke Jordan**, daughter of Local 40 (Elizabethtown, Kentucky) member Billy Jordan, graduated from West Carter County High School and is studying criminal justice at Ashland Community and Technical College.

**Scott Michael Keck**, son of Local 85 (Toledo, Ohio) member Timothy Keck, graduated from Monroe High School and is studying biology at the University of Detroit Mercy.

## How to apply for a **Boilermaker Scholarship**

Know someone who should apply for a 2026 Boilermaker scholarship?

Visit scholarships.boilermakers.org for full instructions and the online application form.

The 2026 applications open Jan. 1, 2026.

**Julie Anna Krueger**, daughter of Local 107 (Milwaukee) member Gregory Krueger, graduated from Lincoln High School and is studying radiography at Northcentral Technical College.

Alex McCormick, son of Local 647 (Minneapolis) member Matthew McCormick, graduated from Grantsburg High School and is studying flight operations at the University of Dubuque.

**Emma Nichole Thiel**, daughter of Local 374 (Hobart, Indiana) member Michael Thiel, graduated from Lake Central High School and is studying criminal justice at Purdue University Northwest.

**Gianna Toscano**, daughter of Local 5 (New York City) member Vincent Toscano, graduated from Greenwich High School and is studying kinesiology at the University of Rhode Island.

Libby Ryan Tubberville, daughter of Local 454 (Chattanooga, Tennessee) member Carl Tubberville, graduated from Fort Payne High School and is studying elementary education at Jacksonville State University.

**Brooklyn Wright**, daughter of Local 455 (Sheffield, Alabama) member Kevin Wright, graduated from Muscle Shoals High School and is studying business at the University of Alabama.

Local 105 awards Don Storey **Memorial Scholarships** 

wo dependents of Local 105 (Chillicothe, Ohio) members each received a \$1,000 Don Storey Memorial Scholarship. Scholarships were awarded to: Cooper Flinner, son of Douglas Flinner and Ellie Brooke Thomas. daughter of Jason Thomas.













Katelyn Howard













Gianna Toscano



Libby Tubberville



Brooklyn Wright

UNIONPLUS

# **Boilermakers win Union Plus Scholarships**

wo people affiliated with the Boilermakers union were among those awarded 2025 Union Plus scholarships. Camryn G. Burgener, whose father, Dustin Burgener is a member of Local 83 (Kansas City, Missouri), and Robert W. Hodge, who is a member of Local 104 (Seattle), each received a \$1,000 scholarship.

Union Plus awarded scholarships to 193 students representing 38 unions. Since the program began in 1991, Union Plus has awarded more than \$5.9

million in educational funding to more than 4,200 union members, their spouses and dependent children. The selection process is exceptionally competitive. This year, 6,213 applications were received from 69 unions across the U.S. and Canada.



Applications for 2026 Union Plus Scholarships are open, and the deadline to apply is Jan. 31, 2026. More information, rules and the online application are available at www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/ union-plus-scholarships

## Essays focus on reaching the next generation of Boilermakers

ach year, Boilermaker scholarship candidates must answer an essay question and topic prompts as part of the application requirements The question is different each year, and candidates must respond in 500 words or less. The 2025 Boilermakers Scholarship Essay question was:

Unionism is on the rise in the United States and Canada. How can the Boilermakers union capitalize on this trend to reach and recruit the next generation to join the trades, and, more specifically, to join the Boilermakers union?

Following are the essays\* as submitted by Angelina Anjelika Bird, winner of Canada's Edward Power Scholarship, and Jenna Madru, winner of the U.S. Charles A. Jones Scholarship.

#### By Angelina Anjelika Bird

Stepdaughter of Cory Hook, Local 359, Vancouver, British Columbia

From the Classroom to the Workforce: A Discussion of the Ever-Changing World of Recruitment Within the Boilermakers Union

T nionism is a concept that has rapidly been expanding within the United States and Canada. Originally, unions were created as a way to protect employee rights and prevent exploitation. However, they were short lived as they began to appear in 18th century Britain and did not gain popularity until the Industrial Revolution in the following century. In the present day, labour unions are a way for workers to come together for common goals such as better pay, or to prevent mistreatment in the workforce, and have become a fast-growing trend throughout North American countries. In order for the Boilermakers Union to capitalize on this and have the most profound success with the generations currently entering high school and adulthood, there are a few strategies they could utilize. Extending their marketing, furthering personal engagement, and reaching the minds of students while they are young, are all factors which can increase their abilities to reach a younger demographic.

The world of marketing has experienced an incredibly drastic shift over the course of the last three decades as the internet has been made popular. While that may not seem important for jobs which are not involved in the tech industry or need international outreach, it would actually be tremendously important for labour unions like the Boilermakers Union to put more attention and effort into growing their online presence. Focusing on the younger generations currently entering the work-

force or beginning to think of their desired career path means that the expansion of media in their everyday lives is something that is important to take into account. By creating social media accounts to advertise their union and provide informational links on the process of joining along with qualifications will boost interest and get them interested without much actual planning or expenses needed.

Despite social media being a useful tool to gain recognition to a widespread audience with minimal effort, it is also more suitable for older age groups who have already chosen a career in trades and are now merely struggling with where to go after graduation. Furthermore, hosting career days, attending school assemblies, and introducing the path of trades via presentations to create personal connections with students early on, is crucial for getting people interested in the idea of pursuing those studies throughout their high school career. Presenting the pros and cons in a realistic manner whilst also encouraging the growth of middle school and high school children not only provides them with better engagement with the craft but also causes them to develop intrigue quickly.

Overall, in addition to the current strategies the Boilermakers Union utilizes to grasp the attention of young individuals, advancing their social media internet presence and extending their connection to local communities by presenting information at assemblies or career events will allow them to prosper in the new age of unionism. These strategies will not only cause them to thrive in attaining the attention of their target demographic but will also form young adults devoted to the craft of trades.

#### By Jenna Madru

Daughter of Joseph Madru Local 1851, Chicopee, Massachusetts

s the United States and Canada have modernized with the rise of technology, it has been difficult to ignore the sheer decrease in blue-collar employment in recent years. Truth be told, this shift in the workplace may be explained by societal pressure placed on today's youth to earn college degrees. Workers' unions such as the Boilermakers Union have created a sense of security around those employed in the trades and juxtapose the idea that a college degree is the only path to success. The current trend of unionism has been critical to promoting and protecting our skilled workers. The Boilermakers Union's best bet to capitalize on this trend is to invest in organizations such as SkillsUSA, Career and Technical Education (CTE), or Youth Advisory Boards. It is with the proper funds and time investment in education that the next generation will join the trades and help return us to a traditional workforce.

To get more young people involved in trades, you must get them interested before they are influenced by college talk. I know several high schools surrounding mine that host SkillsUSA chapters and CTE programs, but I am also conscious that the kids in these programs are usually not recruited for them. In hindsight, I am trying to say that often the only kids informed of these programs are already in trade career paths. In my personal experience with SkillsUSA through a printmaking course I took, I have seen the passion that these young people have for trades. Still, there's room

for promotion. The Boilermakers Union should partner with SkillsUSA and CTE programs to host fairs and information sessions in individual high schools. It is with this promotion that kids who are hesitant to reach out or those who have never heard of going into trades will join and be a critical part of the force once they graduate high school.

Furthermore, programs such as a Boilermakers Youth Advisory Board may help promote youth interest and recruitment. As someone in a District Attorney's YAB, I have benefitted from meeting weekly with a variety of individuals from my district to discuss issues regarding drug use in my community. Similarly, the Boilermakers Union should highlight districts with low blue-collar employment and curate a board of teens with interest in the trades. With this board, youth may meet and discuss the trades and ways to market them to their communities. After all, their peers may be more receptive to joining the trades when hearing about how great it is from someone their age.

Although, it truly is impressive to be able to run applications such as Python, or even calculate financial costs digitally, work in the trades surrounds us and is in high need. Unions have offered fair wages and benefits that are not yet known to a lot of society. The rise of unions may give the Boilermakers Union a great advantage to invest in youth trade services and programs to recruit the next generation of skilled trade workers.

\*Editor's note: These scholarship essays are the original work and independent thought of student authors.



# SERVICE PINS

LOCAL 1 • CHICAGO	
50 YEARS	Edward Boruta, Roy Dinovo, William Morrin
45 YEARS	Michael Jasien, James Smith
35 YEARS	Antonio Gonzalez, Christopher Wodka
30 YEARS	Brian Jentsch
25 YEARS	Brian Antonavich, Heriberto Rodriguez
20 YEARS	James Bingenheimer, Mike Churchill, Nicholas Gustafson

LOCAL 5 • FLORAL PARK NY	
30 YEARS	lan Estwick
25 YEARS	Marlon K. Applewhite
20 YEARS	Miguel Gonzales Jr.
15 YEARS	Francisco J. Fernandez, Jarrod C. Gutekunst, David Marrain, Cory Goodsell

LOCAL 26 • STATESBORO GA		
65 YEARS	Levert R. Chance	
55 YEARS	Donald E. Bryant, Harris J. Flanders, Riggie L. Kitchings, Ray W. Saxon	
50 YEARS	Richard S. Burkhalter	
45 YEARS	Michael Bailey, Robert W. Cooke, Clate S. Fail, George F. Grimsley, William S. Harper, Antonio F. Howe, Edward H. Lewis, Charles E. McDonald, Bobby J. Newham, William J. Walker	
40 YEARS	Richard Holton	
35 YEARS	Joey D. Crews, David A. Gaskin, John Morton, William J. Myers, John H. Oliver, Clinton A. Watts, Ricky C. Wilkes	
20 YEARS	Jonathan Avery, Charles D. Hobson	
15 YEARS	Herman H. Gibbs, Anthony B. Wessels	

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40 35	
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Local Lodge leaders can now submit service pins for fulfillment and inclusion in The Reporter online at boilermakers.org/leaders/resources/pins

LOCAL 29	• BOSTON
60 YEARS	Roger E. Leveillee, Richard I. Newton, Leonard R. Ponte, Robert A. Stevens
55 YEARS	Normand A. Fontaine, Albert T. Haynes, Michael Keefe, Paul G. Landry, Raymond R. Leduc, Lawrence H. MacAdams, Wayne D. Micklitsch, Joseph L. Minuitti, Wilson A. Mull, Steven Ostrosky, James A. Peters, David B. Toulouse, Melville J. Fournier
50 YEARS	Glenn R. Fuller, James P. Ghilardi, Gary C. Goodwin, Russel C. Grafton, John A. Kallenbergh, Estevan L. Lucero, Ralph E. Maxwell, John P. McFarland, John N. Miserocchi, David E. Moffatt, Walter C. Newell, Ronald W. Nickerson, Joseph G. Norman, John O'Connell, Mark G. Olsen, Rocco Patriarca, Daniel M. Pettey, Richard L. Powers, William R. Rees, David O. Rice, Clyde E. Ricker, Roger Roeber, David K. Simes, Walter J. Smith, Donald G. Stevens
45 YEARS	Arthur H. Gaffar, Gerald W. Gendron, William P. Gilcoine, Edward R. Goodhart, Richard B. Greenstreet, Ramon J. Hanlon, William H. Haynes, Peter M. Lanzillo, Kenneth J. MacAdams, James W. Mansfield, Sylvan B. Marks, Arthur J. Marshall, James L. McHugh, Thomas P. McHugh, Paul D. Meade, John A. Merrill, Russel G. Moffatt, Clifford D. Nicholson, Timothy J. O'Leary, Mark P. Perras, Edward A. Renaud, Thomas Saccoach, Paul I. Spear, Michael J. Sullivan, Joe Tarnawski, Edward M. Vroom
40 YEARS	Greg Donahue, John R. Johndrow Jr., Leonard E. Krappe, Stephen E. McCarthy, Dennis G. McCarthy, Robert C. Murphy, Kevin D. Noyes, Terrance M. St. John, Robert D. Tate, Joseph P. Tirone, Richard R. Trial, Ronald F. Verrill, Jeffrey N. Wheeler
35 YEARS	Paul M. Laskowski, Ronald K. McAndrews, Michael W. Monteiro, Richard M. Moore, Jon Munro, Clyson L. Peters, Frank E. Petillo, Felix Rivera, David S. Smith, Andreas F. Staton, Timothy A. Verrill
30 YEARS	Jeffrey Greenstreet, Raymond J. Henault, Kevin M. Johnson, Michael C. Klinge, Thomas P. Leveillee, Richard J. McAndrews, Joseph E. Napolitano, Matthew J. Schmal, Kevin M. Sharland, Steven M. Wardynski, Ronald R. Wedge
25 YEARS	Willard E. Goodall, Robert P. Grafton Jr., Lawrence C. Stiger, Dennis W. York
20 YEARS	Brian V. Crider, Gregory P. Devereux, Martin R. Finley, Jason Hagler, Charles L. Hartquist, Jeffery R. Johnston, Randy J. Kalleck, Eugene T. Kinser, Carl Luttrull, Jim Martin, Ryan Oliveira, Tim Penry, Travis A. Shawn, Edward C. Teel, Richard Wentworth Jr.

LOCAL 60 •	PEORIA IL
55 YEARS	Tom Knight, Steven Quinlan
50 YEARS	Douglas Dahl, Mark Grilc, Rodney Schwing, Terry Smith, Larry Underwood
45 YEARS	Kirk Cooper
40 YEARS	Robert Branan, George Breeding, Brett Cooper, Roger Harrison Jr., Robert Lovings Jr., Gregory Noel
35 YEARS	Richard Chavez Jr.
25 YEARS	Brandon Allonby, Michael Bitner, Jon (Mike) Danley, Lisa Davis, Jon Gaskins, Danny Hoffman Jr., Jason Lancaster, Scotty Miller, Paul Piercy, Chad Swearingen

LOCAL 83	• KANSAS CITY MO
65 YEARS	Robert Frisch
60 YEARS	Kenneth A. Crawford, Roger D. Rankin, Henry R. Schmidt
55 YEARS	Wesley C. Davis, Frederick S. Kent
50 YEARS	John F. Achord, Billy G. Admire, Gary R. Blackwood, Kenneth A. Ehlers, Marty K. Himes, Larry L. Kness, Richard J. Malloy, Timothy L. Malloy, Charles W. McArthur, Denton L. Meginn, Frank Piontkowski, Patrick N. Ryan, Thomas P. Savage, David J. Schwarz, Larry C. Troester, Steven C. Ussery, Howard A. Waldrop II
45 YEARS	Gary L. Cox, Tom E. Gray, Edsel R. Schroeder
40 YEARS	Todd D. Stanley
35 YEARS	Raleigh P. Bartlett, James K. Crowl, Randall H. Jackson, Shannon D. Kellogg, Larry D. Morris, William R. Sickman
30 YEARS	James Eaker, William L. Hughes, Rowlinda J. Justus, Charles Miller, Ronald D. Pickert, Gordon Schumaker, Don Sullivan
25 YEARS	Mitchell Brooks Sr., Randall E. Dunn, David A. Glenn, Joseph D. Harlan, Jason L. Hosack, Kurt Houston, Jon T. Law, Kevin Little, Joshua D. Nelson, Justin D. Nelson, Anthony S. Palmer, Frank B. Plachy Jr., William J. Sardeson, Edward Sargent, Brandon C. Smith, Joe R. Stallard
20 YEARS	Matthew Courter, Christopher Eagleton, Jonathan B. Herriman, Thomas M. McKee, Lonnie K. Pickell, Joshua E. Rhedin, Nigel Turner
15 YEARS	James L. Akins, James B. Charter IV, Felix Morgunov, Timothy W. Morgunov, Charles E. Pyles, P.P. Chip Rankin Jr., Sara J. Rick

10041 02	• LOS ANGELES
LOCAL 92	• LOS ANGELES
<b>50 YEARS</b>	Chris A. Frumento, Alvin H. Manning, Arlen G. Miller
45 YEARS	Jim H. Haines, Fernando L. Restrepo, Jesse Rodriguez
40 YEARS	Steven E. Rapp, Mike B. Ross
35 YEARS	Dan F. Campos, Robert D. Furnish, Michael R. Kirkconnell
30 YEARS	Timothy D. Barker, Gerald R. Bernard, Joey M. Collins, Scott Contratto, James A. Holland, Michael R. Kirkconnell, Wilfred Milton Madison, James E. Mora, Clay S. Smith
25 YEARS	Kevin Belk, John K. Blevins, Reed T. Blevins, Robert E. Buma, Lalo L. Cervantez, Henry M. Chavez, John P. Clark, Aaron Del Rio, Antonio F. Johnson, Ryan M. Martin, Seyed S. Moosavi, Sergio Oseguera, Guillermo Oseguera, Herbert C. Tso, Verle E. Tsosie, Jason Whiterock, Jason C. Zeeb
20 YEARS	Joe M. Abeyta, Joe M. Abeyta, Arturo Alvarado, Luis G. Arguello, Gary D. Bell, Lawrence S. Calderon, Daniel Duenas, Glenn M. Duran, Samaryn Dypha, Savitich D. Enriquez, Luis H. Garcia, Armando C. Garnica, Duane A. Gleason, Jeffrey A. Gleason, Ricardo M. Granizo, April Littleman, Frank Lopez, Frank P. Martinez, Phillip J. Martinez, John Muirhead, Rodolfo D. Ramirez, Eugene Richards, Fernando F. Saenz, Claudio Salas, Therel J. Sherrell, Richard B. Six, Che H. Womack
15 YEARS	Ruben Canas, Roberto Davila, Marcos Del Rio, Homero S. Duenas, Javier E. Erazo, Peter E. Estrada, Nicolas Garcia, Robert Gonzalez, Arturo Gutierrez, Martin Mariscal, Benjamin R. Overbo, Jason M. Proctor, Rodolfo D. Ramirez, Megan G. Solis, Brian D. Stephenson, Raul Vargas, Felix G. Vigil

LOCAL 108 • BESSEMER AL	
55 YEARS	Fred Toomey
15 YEARS	Michael Lawson
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LOCAL 169 • DETROIT		
70 YEARS	Charles E. Dunn	
65 YEARS	Edward D. Rokuski, Richard G. Wimmer Jr.	
60 YEARS	Babylas Bourdages, Charles E. Gould, Amante C. Lanzon, Robert T. Macleod, Michael C. Usher, Alfred A Vanderbrink, David R. Wilson	
55 YEARS	David Atherall, Marty Dalton, Charles T. Flaishans, Raymond R. Gould, John L. Ivey, John L. Kent, Ronald D. Roberson, Gordon L. Sanders, William Stelzer, Bernard Williams	
50 YEARS	George C. Boler Jr., James E. Burns, Donald G. Burt, Patrick V. Carley, William E. Closser Jr., James Denkins, Douglas C. Edgar, James W. Ferebee, Raymond Flowers Jr., Lewis J. Harris, Andrew R Heugh, George H. Ivey, James M. Jedinak, Dale A. Lewis, James Loveland, Charles P. Maciejewski, George L. Macklam, James A. Micheau, Raymond C. Nadolski, Patrick W Pelz, Robert J. Rose, David R. Sanderson, Stephen W. Schwartz, William B. Senk, Bethel L Siegel, Allen H. Tajak, Frank Temple, Timothy V. Theodore, Eric A. Treichel	
45 YEARS	Timothy J. Ayotte, James Howard, Gary T. LaForest, Lenny D. Minor, George C. Payne, James Rokuski, Steven E Schultz, Kevin J. Schultz, Richard N. St. John, William G. Westphal, Michael Wiles, Howard Wing, Edward J. Wlodyka Jr.	
30 YEARS	Michael D. Card, Steven H. Chase Jr., Donald T. Cobb, Richard Cowley, Pete Dodge, Paul M. Easley, James A. Empson, James K. Gould, Kerry W. Johnson, Donald Kisielewicz, Christopher Lanzon, Carl B. Mitchell, Spencer A. Moorefield, Richard T. Norris, Michael P. Slomzenski, Daniel G. Southwell, Terrence M. Sullivan	
25 YEARS	Robert J. Anderson, James V. Archer, Kevin R. Bletsch, Lawrence A. Brooks, Herman K. Brown, Terry J. Chase, Brian Cogswell, Martin J. Dalton, James B. Dame, Anna Marie L. Deater, Damon R. Fowler, Tim L. Frazer, Daniel J. Fyolek, James A. Glasson, Lonnie R. Harden, Richard E. Hiam, Scott M. Ivey, Eric L. Jones, Dennis Jordan, David A. Knaf, Derek T. Lagace, Kevin D. Leapheart, Kevin J. Mackenzie, Michael S. Maddock, Mark L. Mckie, Keith W. Mowrer Jr., Glenn M. Palmer, Bruce W. Pederson, Daniel J. Pelz Jr., Jack R. Perry, Jamie T Ratliff, Joseph J Rebecca, Donald J. Rugenstein II, Murray E. Sedich, Daniel P. Smith, Shayne P. Smith, Timothy A. Taylor, Larry P. Taylor, Heath E. Tyler, Mark A. Ulbrik, Fredrick P. VanHaaren III, Christopher W. Wicks, Jeffrey Williamson, Randy Williamson, Michael T. Williamson, Ryan C. Willoughby	
20 YEARS	Jason L. Beaudin, Patrick D. Card, James J. Chase, Andy Demars, Jason D. Dodson, Zane A. Dole, Donald M. Fajardo, Justin J. Howington, Abalos Joshua, Joshua J. Lauzon, Timothy A. Millette, Jason L. Niezurawski, Scott W. Schuiteman, Kim K. Snyder, James B. Williams	
15 YEARS	Jason P. Abbatoy, Jordan G. Blankenbaker, Brian Jon Bonno, William M Brush, Anthony M. Hyden, Willard J. Oyler, Thomas D. Sargent, Benjamin J. Schultz, Jeremy J. Seaman, Brian J. Smith, Matthew J. Valentine, William M. Westphal	

# LOCAL 549 • PITTSBURG CA

35 YEARS

Robert H. Jones II

LOCAL 555 • WINNIPEG MB						
60 YEARS	Steve Kowalchuk, Harvey Walske					
55 YEARS	Tony Marques					
50 YEARS	Keith Atkins, William Cole, Jim Donnelly, Art Gingras, Ed J. Hallett, Ray Leclair, Gary Lee, Barry Leggett, Daniel Mahoney, Wayne D. Short, Nelson St. Goddard					
45 YEARS	William Bergstrom, Emile Gareau, Larry Kemp, Glenn Larson, James P. Milas, Craig Morrison, Shaun F. Zuck					
40 YEARS	George Aube, Walter Baschuk, Don M. Bodnar, Darcy Dubowski, Gregory S. Florell, Robert Hall, Glen Krusky, Gordon Marcotte, Lorenzo Serravalle					
35 YEARS	Alan A. Chernosky, Jerry Combot, Steve P. Dmyterko, Ian Gillson, Jean-Noel Gosselin, Monty Heatcoat, Kelly J. Houston, Jude Macedo, Lanny K. Martindale, Jeff Mcwilliams, Wendy Muzyka, Patrick K. Pires, Tony Van Kampen, W.B (Bill) Wachnaik, Steve E. Watson, Bentley B. Wiebe, Mark Willie					
30 YEARS	Robert J. Gingras, Sheldon T. Mitchell, Jeff Welsh, Howard West					
25 YEARS	Derrick Fisher, Cory Gannon, Robert J. Gingras, Che Kasper, Dion Malakoff, Derek N. Marchant, Sheldon T. Mitchell, Danny Sellar, Howard West					

#### **LOCAL 614 • NEW LONDON CT**

**35 YEARS** 

Joseph O'Connor



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or via email at

Bvtinfo@hsba.com

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# A NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES SUBJECT TO UNION SECURITY CLAUSES

EMPLOYEES WORKING UNDER COLLECTIVE BARGAINING AGREEMENTS CONTAINING UNION SECURITY CLAUSES are required, as a condition of employment, to pay either monthly dues or fees to the union. This is their only obligation to the union, regardless of the wording of the clauses. Individuals who are members of the Boilermakers pay monthly dues. Individuals who are not members pay fees.

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

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

An objecting nonmember who is subject to a union security clause has a legal right to file objections to funding expenditures which are not germane to the collective bargaining process. Fee-paying nonmembers who choose to file such objections should advise the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers in writing, in the form of a letter, signed by the objector, and sent to the International Secretary-Treasurer of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, 12200 N. Ambassador Dr., Suite 303, Kansas City, MO 64163. The letter must contain the objector's home address and local lodge number, if known.

Upon receipt of the objection, the International President shall provide a description of the procedures to be followed. This objection must be filed every year during the month of November, or within the first 30 days in which the objector is required to pay dues or fees to the union, or within 30 days after the objector becomes a nonmember. Examples of expenditures germane to the collective bargaining process are those made for the negotiation, enforcement, and administration of collective bargaining agreements, meetings with employer and union representatives, proceedings on behalf of workers under the grievance procedure, arbitration proceedings, servicing the bargaining units that we represent, internal union administration, and matters related to these activities.

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

In considering these matters, you should be aware that only members have the following rights:

- to vote on the terms of your collective bargaining agreement;
- to participate in the development of contract proposals;
- to nominate and vote for local union officers;
- to attend International conventions as a delegate;
- to participate in strike votes; and
- to numerous other benefits available only to members, such as those described above and qualified Union Plus programs.

It is clearly to your advantage to continue to be a full, active member of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers. Only through unity and solidarity can we better our working conditions and reap benefits for ourselves and our families.

# Joe Stinger gave Boilermakers a lifetime of service

oseph Stinger, 79, former International Vice President of the Western States, passed away unexpectedly on July 3, while at his river property in Maryland.

A Pennsylvania native, Stinger was born on Jan. 2, 1946. He served with distinction as an Airborne Ranger in Vietnam. Stinger received many Army awards and special recognitions during his time in the service, including the Valorous Unit Award, which is the Army's second highest unit award and is given to units that display extraordinary heroism in combat.

Upon returning home to Pennsylvania, Stinger began his career as a Boilermaker, first with Monongahela Barge and Construction company and then, in 1967, as a railroad Boilermaker with the Monongahela Railroad. He joined Boilermakers Local 747 on Jan. 8, 1968, beginning nearly four decades of dedicated service to the union. During this time, Stinger also earned his associates degree and went on to graduate from Harvard University's Trade Union program.

Stinger quickly emerged as a strong union leader. In 1977, he was elected General Chairman of the Railroad Division's Eastern Region, where he represented members with skill and determination. He was re-elected in 1981 before being appointed International Rep in 1983. Over the next two decades, he advanced steadily through the union's leadership ranks, holding various roles including: Director of the Railroad Division in 1984, Assistant to the International President and Administrative Assistant to the International President in 1996.

In recognition of his steady leadership and commitment to the membership, Stinger was elected International Vice President of the Western States, a position he held until his retirement in 2005. In addition to the union offices he held, he served on the boards of the Brotherhood Bank & Trust (now Bank of Labor). the Boilermaker Pension Fund and the Railroad Retirement Board.



Former IVP-WS Joe Stinger

Western States International Vice President J. Tom Baca has good memories of Stinger. "I was very honored to call Joe a friend," he said. "I was honored when he recommended me to be the next IVP for the Western States."

Throughout his career, others respected Stinger as a man of integrity and discipline who demonstrated stanch loyalty to the union and its members. His work strengthened the Boilermakers and left a lasting mark on generations of tradesmen and tradeswomen.

While his family and friends will remember him for his warmth, humor and love of the outdoors, the Boilermakers will remember Stinger as a lifelong advocate for working men and women and as a leader who helped guide the Brotherhood with vision and resolve.





IN MEMORIAM

With deepest sorrow, the Boilermakers union records the death of these members as reported to the International Secretary-Treasurer's office and extends heartfelt sympathy to the bereaved families.

NTL	Amy, Michael	29	Landry, Paul G.	104	Lindsley, David M.
NTL	Bell, Bobby G.	29	O'Brien, Kevan P.	104	Longerbeam, Harry E.
NTL	Bridges, Maurice J.	29	Straz, James	104	Quan, Whiling J.
NTL	Coles Jr., Lawrenc B.	29	Suneson, Matthew Q.	104	Roth, Gerald A.
NTL	Dahl, Edwin E.	30	King, Lindy C.	104	Wadley, Jesse A.
NTL	Enloe, Wesley T.	37	Losh, Roger D.	104	Wallace, Donald R.
NTL	Galvin, Jerry A.	40	Green, Benny R.	104	West, James F.
NTL	Henson, Douglas D.	40	Mercer, Connis H.	104	Westford, Kenneth A.
NTL	Jones, Kenneth L.	40	Stevens, Monte R.	104	Young, Eddie J.
NTL	Overdorf, Harold D.	44	Wyatt, Chet	105	Phalin, Keith D.
NTL	Van Guilder, Lawrenc W.	45	Day Jr., Perry A.	105	Prichard, Phillip E.
NTL	Wardle, Bill E.	60	Baker Jr., Charles L.	106	Means, Charles
NTL	Watson, Wayne J.	60	Mooney, Michael J.	107	Poweleit, Ralph J.
NTL	Wilson, Charles E.	60	Sadnick, Justin M.	107	Waarvik, Keith L.
1	Eibel Jr., George H.	60	Webber, Michael T.	108	Bates, James D.
1	Hubert, Wilson B.	69	Casto, Danny W.	108	Butera, Vincent A.
1	Maddox, Kenneth	72	Selzler, Leroy J.	108	Hayes Jr., Robert B.
4	Unsworth, Ted L.	73	Downs, Michael A.	108	Riviere, Charles W.
6	Hernandez, Rogelio E.	73	Gionet, Joseph G.	110	Yates, Roger L.
6	Melendez, Rizalino S.	73	Hill, Vincent L.	124	Johnson, Owen S.
6	Preston, Clyde W.	83	Hendley, William K.	128	Chouinard, Denis
6	Schott, James D.	83	Hensler, Donald R.	128	Connell, John
7	Carpenter, F E.	83	McGinnis, Edward L.	128	Kaal, Bernard
11	Hewitt, James T.	83	Mulder, W. B.	128	McDonald, John F.
11	Mathews, Eric	83	Raney, Earl L.	128	Walsh, Patrick J.
13	Corley, Bruce W.	83	Rinck Sr., Claude D.	132	Fleck, Lubick
13	Frederick, Richard P.	83	Walker, Robert L.	132	Gray, James C.
13	LeCompte, Francis X.	85	Hall, F. G.	146	Fielding, John
13	Machutas, Michael J.	85	Pacholski, Thomas R.	146	Flipsen, Peter J.
13	Packer, Robert I.	85	Sepelak Jr., George F.	146	Frost, William G.
13	Smith, William R.	85	Vancamp, Dennis R.	146	Gordon, Grant
13	Stauffer, Wade R.	92	Chavez, Abel	146	Jandrey, Eric R.
13	Wilson, James E.	92	Graham, Ralph E.	146	Landiak, Paul
26	Grimsley, George F.	92	Lee, Jimmie	146	MacFarlane, Michael R.
26	Irvin, Sterling	92	Oneal, Claude C.	146	Morrow, Raymond E.
26	Roberts, Carey D.	92	Robles, Arnold	146	Rohr, David M.
27	Buckner, Leonard F.	92	Viers, David A.	146	Sorochan, Brian C.
27	Keys, Robert	101	Burr, Samuel B.	146	Therrien, Len
27	Long, David E.	101	Stinger, Joseph A.	154	Halstead, James W.
28	Casey, James K.	101	Tiner, Raymond R.	154	Hughes, Robert A.
28	Fenton, Andrew R.	101	Warren, Arthur R.	154	McKernan, John L.
28	Lieggi, Christopher R.	104	Fregin, Donald R.	154	Mckinley, Harry A.
29	Bronson, Keith R.	104	Gatt, Reno G.	154	Mullen, Erik S.
29	Laboissonniere, Raymond W.	104	Keith, Larry D.	154	Raulerson, Rodney G.

## ${\color{red} IN~MEMORIAM~(continued~from~previous~page)} \\$

154	Roberto, James V.	433	Earley, William R.	656	Wilks, Billy F.
154	Tourtellotte, Joseph N.	433	Missildine, Melvin L.	667	Chambers, Steve E.
159	Seidel, Alfred J.	433	Quincey, Bruce K.	667	Dew, William L.
169	Brydon, Kenneth D.	433	Rutherford, Thomas C.	667	Easter, Frederick K.
169	Gavigan, James B.	449	Delarwelle, Thomas H.	667	Eggers, James W.
169	Hardwick, Sherman B.	454	Blankenship, Clarence	667	Goodson, Robert E.
169	Ivey, Randolph J.	454	Farmer, Horace L.	667	Hyatt, Bobby E.
169	Micheau, James A.	454	Gardner, Malcolm G.	679	Johnson, James W.
169	Rochefort, Gerald F.	454	Wheeler, William C.	684	Rigdon III, Charles P.
169	Vickery, Harold J.	455	Black, Marshall S.	684	Whitt, James G.
175	O'Connor, Jude C.	455	Garmon, William G.	688	Ladner, John H.
182	Marsh, Robert L.	455	McCaleb Jr., Tommy L.	696	Blondia, Robert P.
182	Mynarcik, Hersh A.	455	Taylor, William "Ronnie"	696	Krok II, Fred J.
182	Vanvalkenburg, Paul	483	Nguyen, Phan T.	696	Laviolette, Allen M.
191	Milligan, Ty	487	Suess, Gregg J.	696	Leister, Edward E.
193	Liggett, James L.	487	Verdegan, Mike	696	Polzin, David A.
193	Stallings, Joseph P.	502	Hanning, Richard R.	697	Mancl, Donald J.
197	Boevin, William G.	502	Morris, Newton P.	726	Adkins, Troy M.
199	Baxter, Ernest E.	502	Phelps, David M.	729	Patterson, Garry J.
199	Crews, James	502	Woods, James M.	802	Black, Leroy
199	Gilder, Robert D.	502	Zimmerman, Robert F.	802	Dantinne, Russell
242	Gray, Raymond G.	518	Brown, Lavurn	802	Kokoszka, Stanley M.
242	Lynch, Fred R.	531	Cheatum, David M.	802	Smoak, John H.
242	Mauritson, Lionel J.	531	Harris, John E.	802	Williams, Terry
242	Mitchell, Benny F.	549	Francisco, Diosy M.	1086	Hastings, Robert
271	Arsenault, Ludger	549	Gonzales, Louis B.	1240	Edmond, David M.
271	Duhamel, Jean L.	549	Walton Jr., Robert E.	1240	Hall, Phillip D.
271	Hudon, Andre	549	Wilson, William C.	1509	Bertino, Tony J.
359	Britz, Walter J.	555	Allan, Robert	1509	Zynda, Rhody V.
359	Hayes, Patrick J.	583	Gilbert, Calvin W.	1510	Portugal, Leslie J.
359	Jones, Adrian	583	Vanhorn, Joesph W.	1600	Lowry, Timothy L.
359	Kozic, Gavriel	587	Simmons, C. W.	1600	Soler, G.
359	Sharma, Shanker D.	587	Thompson, Eddie C.	1600	Torres, Eliades
363	Austin, Arthur E.	592	Burton, Harold	1626	Fonville, Troy J.
363	Turner, Michael	592	Dunlap, Randy W.	1668	Sleeper, Fred
363	Waddell, James A.	592	Sehon, Larry E.	1999	Elliott, William T.
374	Banks, Joshua D.	592	Tackitt, Kevin J.	2000	Gordon, James
374	Bradley, Patrick M.	592	Waldrup, Richard L.	D92	Gates, Brian
374	Bullock, Philip L.	627	Caballes, Dennis	D366	Folcarelli, Nicola
374	De Vries, William L.	627	Nez, Randell T.	D435	Schiller, George M.
374	Gervais, Edward D.	638	Terwilliger, David G.	D500	Luetzow, Gary W.
374	Miller, Jerald L.	647	Bignell Sr., Richard L.	D2020	Thompson, James R.
374	Plowman, Gregory M.	647	Halik, Mike B.	<b>S</b> 7	Compton, George E.
374	Rogier, Paul F.	647	Powers, Joseph L.	<b>S</b> 7	Wilmsmeyer, Mark W.
374	Trumpower Jr., Donald L.	647	Swenson Jr., Stanley P.	S105	Bridges, Gene E.
374	Weatherholt, Charles C.	647	Zack, Richard	S185	Williams, Martez
433	Bertram, Earl L.	656	Boyd, Dewey L.	S251	Conner, Tracy A.
433	Connolly, Harold J.	656	Neal Jr., Tom F.	S251	Stanley, Christopher D.
433	Davey, Lance E.	656	Poole, James W.		

## Boilermakers help win asbestos-safe working conditions

or decades, asbestos was hailed as a miracle material. Cheap, durable and nearly fire-proof, it became the go-to insulator for boilers, steam pipes, shipbuilding, cement and power plants. Boilermakers worked with it daily, their hands and lungs exposed to its fine dust, never realizing that the very substance that made their work possible was slowly killing them. They wouldn't know because asbestos manufacturers hid the truth.

But the dangers of asbestos weren't unknown. As early as the 1920s, researchers suspected that prolonged exposure could be deadly. In 1929, the first workers' compensation claim was filed against an asbestos manufacturer. Just four years later, Johns-Manville, one of the nation's largest asbestos producers, secretly settled with 11 employees who had incurable lung disease. That settlement was kept under wraps for nearly half a century while workers continued to inhale toxic fibers.

By the 1970s, the truth could no longer be contained. A massive class-action lawsuit in Los Angeles, representing thousands of shipyard workers who had been exposed, claimed 15 manufacturers were suppressing information about asbestos's dangers. By the '70s, workers knew firsthand what the science was proving: that breathing in asbestos dust led to devastating illnesses, such as asbestosis, lung cancer, stomach and colon cancers, and the cruel disease of mesothelioma, a fatal cancer of the lung lining tied exclusively to asbestos exposure.

The toll was staggering. Between 1940 and 1980, more than 27 million American workers were exposed. For some, cancer appeared where the sweatband of a hard hat had pressed asbestos fibers into their skin. Others developed lung tissue

that hardened into something resembling leather, making each breath a struggle.

Boilermakers, alongside other unions and health advocates, refused to remain silent. Partnering with researchers at the University of Southern California, they demonstrated that any level of exposure posed a risk. Their persistence helped push the federal government into action. In 1986, OSHA set its first workplace limit on asbestos exposure—0.2 fibers per cubic centimeter of air in an eight-hour shift. Nearly two decades later, the standard was cut to 0.1 fibers. Progress had been made, but only after years of relentless pressure from labor unions, including the Boilermakers.

The legal battles were intense. By the early 1980s, Johns-Manville faced more than 16,000 lawsuits and filed for bankruptcy. Trust funds were eventually created to provide some compensation to victims, but court delays meant many died before ever seeing justice. In 1990, Boilermakers out of Local 920 in Portsmouth, New Hampshire, helped secure the largest asbestos settlement in federal shipyard history, winning millions for workers.

The story of asbestos is a reminder of what happens when corporations put profit before people and how hard workers must fight to protect themselves. Every safeguard in place today exists because unions like the Boilermakers raised their voices, demanded accountability and refused to let the truth stay buried.

Even today, labor unions must remain vigilant. Very recent attempts that threatened to walk back asbestos protections were only halted by a loud outcry from worker advocates. As in the past, change comes when working people stand together.



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