

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

THE REPORTER

FALL 2026

John T. Fultz

International Vice President
Boilermakers Local Lodge 5



BOILERMAKERS

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THE REPORTER

Vol. 65 No. 3

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Our work begins now

As I look back on the 35th Consolidated Convention, I'm filled with hope for the future. The Convention gave us an opportunity to reflect on where we've been and look at the challenges we have overcome. But even more, it gave us the opportunity to decide where we are going.

When I stood before our delegates, I spoke about a vision for this Brotherhood—a union united in purpose with expanding opportunities for every member. I see our union preparing the next generation of Boilermakers for the next generation of work. That vision did not end when the Convention adjourned.

The Convention's theme—United in Purpose, Unstoppable in Progress—encapsulates my vision for this union. We've spent the past two years rebuilding and strengthening this organization. We have invested in organizing, recruiting and training. We're working to rebuild relationships with our allies in the labor movement. We've also expanded our legislative efforts to ensure the Boilermakers have a voice whenever decisions affecting our work are being made.

We've modernized the way we organize and recruit, making it easier for workers to become Boilermakers. We put organizers in the field and recruiters to work, helping us meet the growing



“ I see our union preparing the next generation of Boilermakers for the next generation of work. That vision did not end when the Convention adjourned. ”

demand for skilled craftsmen and women. Those efforts are producing results. But we don't look at those accomplishments and say that our work is done. No, it's quite the opposite.

The future of this Brotherhood will be determined by what we do next. There are nonunion workers who earn poverty wages and lack the benefits and security that come from having union representation. They are the Boilermakers of tomorrow. And make no mistake, we have an obligation to reach them. We have a responsibility to lift the working class out of the prison of low wages and unsafe working conditions. Remember—before you joined the union, someone showed you the way.

That means every one of us has a role in organizing and recruiting. Talk to a young person you know and explain the benefits of working in a union trade. Show a worker who has never experienced union solidarity what that means in practical terms. Make sure the next generation understands that being a Boilermaker is more than having a job. It means they're not out there fighting the boss alone.

We also must prepare for the work ahead. The industries we serve are changing. New manufacturing facilities, power projects, energy infrastructure, data centers and other major projects are creating opportunities. But opportunities do not automatically become Boilermaker work. We must be at the table, protecting our jurisdiction while building relationships. We need to be loud and proud, reminding employers that when they need skilled craftsmen and women, Boilermakers are the answer.

That requires continued investment in training. We need to make sure our apprentices have the skills they need today while preparing them for the work of tomorrow. Because our greatest asset has never been a building, a bank or a piece of equipment. The union's greatest assets are the skilled men and women working in shipbuilding, railroads, cement plants, manufacturing and field construction. Without you, we perish.

When we were at Convention, we were one Brotherhood. And that can't change now that we're home. What happens in the years ahead will not be determined by what one person does at International Headquarters. It will not be determined by what one local does or what one area accomplishes. It will be determined by what all of us do together. We must be committed to training, protecting our work and supporting our local lodges.

The generations before us built this Brotherhood one job at a time, one apprentice at a time and one local at a time. They sacrificed so that we could have good jobs, support our families and retire with dignity. Now it is our turn. The Convention has given us the direction, mandate and opportunity to sow a bright future for the generations to come. Our best days are not behind us; they're ahead of us.

Now let's get to work.



Timothy Simmons
International President

35TH CONSOLIDATED CONVENTION

BOILERMAKERS

JULY 20-23, 2026



35th Convention shapes the Brotherhood's future

The 35th Consolidated Convention, July 20-23, brought together 435 Boilermaker delegates from local lodges, districts and councils throughout the United States and Canada to conduct the business of the Brotherhood. Delegates voted on union leadership and changes to the union's Constitution. In addition to voting delegates, 61 delegates-at-large, International officers, staff and employees also attended.

Throughout the week, delegates elected International officers and debated proposed amendments to the International Constitution and policies. They also heard guest speakers and considered reports from Convention committees. Delegates engaged in discussions about the union's priorities over the next five years. Between sessions, video presentations showcased Boilermakers at work, highlighting the skill, pride and craftsmanship of members across North America.

International President Timothy Simmons opened the first day of the Convention with a rousing State of the Union message presenting a vision for the Boilermakers built on unity, growth and member engagement. Simmons acknowledged the union's recent struggles but said the Brotherhood has emerged stronger and now focused on expanding membership and restoring members' confidence in their leadership.

Developing a clear direction for the union became one of his first priorities after taking office.

"We didn't need empty words or promises; we needed a vision," he said.

That vision was shaped by his conversations with members at local lodges and jobsites across North



America. Members were tired of the status quo and wanted to be a part of change and see growth in the union.

"I have a vision of our union being tripled in size by our next Convention," he said. Then he detailed several initiatives already underway to move the union toward that goal.

The union has hired full-time organizers in every area, expanded recruiting efforts, introduced electronic authorization cards and launched the union's first online membership application. Simmons also pointed to renewed relationships with the AFL-CIO and North America's Building Trades Unions, increased legislative advocacy and continued investment in member training.

"I have made specific efforts to attend these meetings and multi-craft events because, let's be honest, if you are not at the table, you are on the menu."

“ Together, we will strengthen this Brotherhood for those who come after us. Together, we will prove that when Boilermakers are united in purpose, we truly are unstoppable in progress. ”

Timothy Simmons
International President

Throughout the address, Simmons emphasized that growth is the responsibility of every member, encouraging delegates to recruit new workers into the trade and extend the opportunities union membership has provided to generations of working families. With the Convention's theme, "United in Purpose, Unstoppable in Progress," Simmons called on members to move beyond past divisions and work together to strengthen the Brotherhood for future generations.

"The generations before us gave us this union, and it's worth fighting for," he said. "They built it one job at a time, one apprentice at a time, one local at a time. They sacrificed so that we could earn a good living, support our families and retire with dignity. Now it is our turn."

Simmons said that years from now, when a future generation gathers at this Convention, they will look back on this moment to see how delegates chose to face the union's challenges.

"I believe they will say this was the moment the Boilermakers chose growth over fear, unity over division and action over complacency," he said. "Together, we will strengthen this Brotherhood for those who come after us. Together, we will prove that when Boilermakers are united in purpose, we truly are unstoppable in progress."

New officers are sworn in at the close of the 35th Consolidated Convention.

Simmons reelected; officer elections conclude

On opening day, Convention delegates voted to elect Timothy Simmons to a five-year term as International President of the union.

"It is an honor and a privilege to serve the men and women who call themselves Boilermakers," Simmons said to an energized crowd upon his election. "We cannot stop now. We've got to take this energy back to our local lodges and fire them up the same way. With organizing, recruiting and training, we can triple in size before our next Convention!"

Simmons had previously been elected by the International Executive Council to serve the unexpired term of the preceding International President immediately upon his retirement in 2024.

In other officer election results:

- Clint Penny was reelected as International Secretary-Treasurer.
- J. Tom Baca was reelected as International Vice President-Western States.
- Eric Davis was elected as International Vice President-Great Lakes.
- John Fultz was reelected as International Vice President-Northeast.
- Jeff Campbell was reelected as International Vice President-Southeast.
- Arnie Stadnick was reelected as International Vice President-Canada.
- John Fultz's seat as International Vice President-Northeast was uncontested.





Liz Shuler, AFL-CIO President

Guest speakers discuss economy and jobs for the middle-class

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler addressed delegates Monday, urging them to continue leading the union in organizing, political action and worker-led innovation. She said the future of the American economy depends on empowering working people rather than enriching corporations and billionaires.

Shuler said today's economy has failed to reward the workers whose labor drives its success. While corporate executives earn millions and companies spend billions on stock buybacks, many working families continue to struggle with rising costs and economic uncertainty.

"It's time to build an economy that works for people who actually work for a living," Shuler said.

She praised the Boilermakers' leadership and organizing successes, describing the union as an example of what a modern labor movement can accomplish. Shuler noted the AFL-CIO surpassed its goal of organizing 1 million workers in just three years, well ahead of its original 10-year target, and she highlighted Boilermaker organizing victories at Nichiha in Georgia and Trojan Battery in California as proof that workers continue to embrace union representation.

Shuler said workplace organizing must be matched by political engagement. She encouraged delegates to participate in the upcoming midterm elections, saying labor must protect voting rights and elect leaders who support collective bargaining, retirement security and workers' rights. The AFL-CIO is aiming to mobilize 16 million union

voters and deploy 50,000 trained election protectors to safeguard access to the polls.

Looking ahead, Shuler said organized labor must play a central role in shaping emerging technologies, particularly artificial intelligence. She warned against allowing corporations to introduce AI without worker input and called for safeguards that protect jobs and the right to organize. While technology will transform many industries, she said it should enhance the skills and judgment of trained union workers, not replace them.

Shuler also advocated for strengthening North American manufacturing through investing in domestic supply chains and pursuing an "all-of-the-above" energy strategy, which creates union jobs that pay a living wage.

Shuler called on union members to reject efforts to divide working people. Instead, she urged delegates to stand together to confront corporate power and build an economy that puts workers first.

"The billionaires have their money. Corporations have their lobbyists," she said. "We have each other."

North America's Building Trades Union President Sean McGarvey addressed delegates Tuesday morning. He assured delegates the union building trades are in a strong position for jobs and steady work.

"Whether it's advanced manufacturing, nuclear energy, shipbuilding, refineries, data centers or infrastructure needed to power the next generation of our economy, these projects demand the skill and standards that only our unions can deliver," he said. "The Boilermakers know that as well as anyone."





North America's Building Trades Union President Sean McGarvey

“The reason we’re in this position is simple: We invest in people.”

That investment, he said, is through the registered apprenticeship programs and the high-quality training union’s offer.

NABTU’s affiliated unions and their signatory contractors invest nearly \$3 billion annually in apprenticeship and training. Only the United States military trains more hard-skilled workers than the building trades do, he pointed out.

McGarvey outlined NABTU’s pathways into the trades to build a middle-class future, including through their Apprenticeship Readiness Program, Tradeswomen Build Nations and Helmets to Hardhats.

He went on to describe NABTU’s partnership with the Center for Construction and Research and their work addressing mental wellness in the building trades. CPWR has created practical tools aimed at the construction industry and is seeing a significant reduction in overdose deaths.

Regarding data center work, McGarvey stressed the importance of building trades unions being actively engaged with policymakers.

“The challenge isn’t whether these projects are needed,” he explained. “The challenge is workforce planning and execution. That’s why NABTU works every day to advance policies, permitting certainty, investment and project planning that gives owners confidence to move forward.”

McGarvey closed by emphasizing the nation’s enduring need for Boilermakers’ unique, high-quality skills.

“As long as America needs power, industry, infrastructure and national security, America will need the Boilermakers,” he said. “And I have every confidence that you will continue to lead, grow and raise the bar for the industry and America’s workforce, just as you have done for generations.”

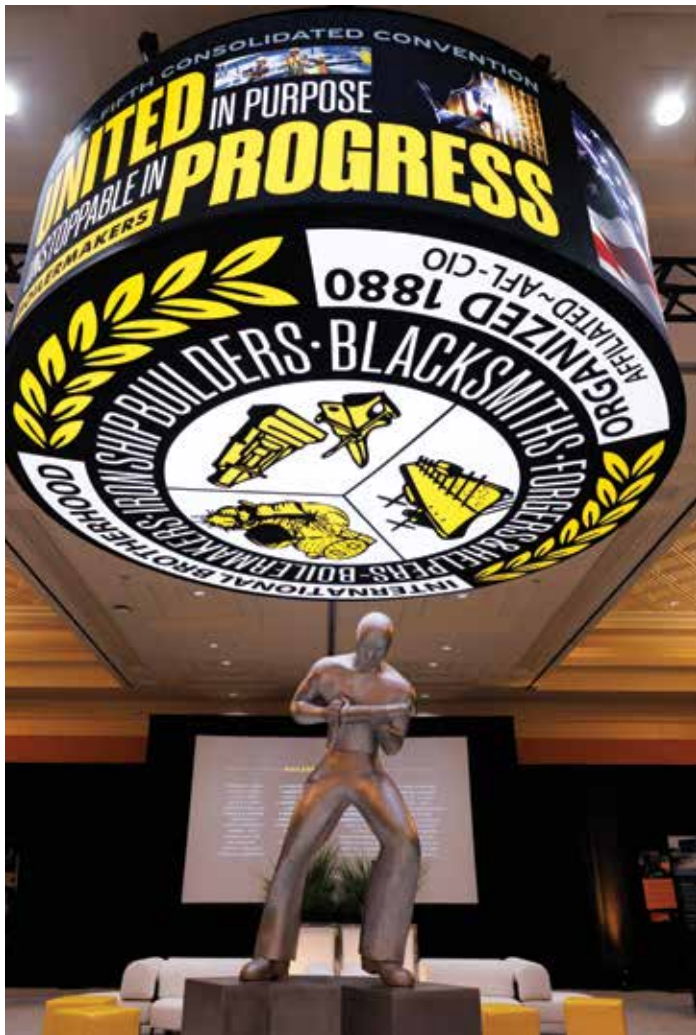
Boilermakers and guests explore products, craft, history

Doors to the Convention’s exhibit hall opened the weekend before the Convention’s first delegate session, allowing delegates a chance to visit more than 20 vendor and partner booths and explore a special Boilermaker History Preservation Department exhibit.

The exhibit hall was open to both guests and delegates throughout the Convention. Vendors and partners included the Boilermakers National Funds, Boilermakers National Apprenticeship Program, Union Plus, Bank of Labor, MOST Programs and Milwaukee Tools, among many others.



The History Department’s display was the exhibit hall highlight. The detailed, informative display told the union’s story from its early days to today. One side walked visitors through panels peppered with little-known facts about the union that shaped the Brotherhood over the years. The other side featured samples of products Boilermakers make today throughout the United States and Canada that impact daily lives—from Ty-D-Bol to cement and massive Komatsu heavy-duty haulers. At the center, a screen displayed videos and scenes from



the union's history, as well as a tribute in memorial to brothers and sisters who had died since the last Convention.

It was all anchored by the signature Boilermaker riveter sculpture.

"It was a celebration of our history of craftsmanship," said BHPD Director Dave Stewart. "We wanted to create an experience where people could learn about the history of our union and how our union developed and evolved over time."

The exhibit was entirely designed and crafted by the BHPD staff, from researching and writing about the union's history to hand making the displays that showcased it all. International Reps helped procure the Boilermaker-made products.

"Preserving and showing our union's history is important because it educates new members on the legacy of craftsmanship they'll carry forward," Stewart said. "It's also a reminder to existing members about where our Brotherhood came from and

what we've gone through to become the union of craftsmen and craftswomen we are today."

The exhibit illustrated the Convention's theme, as it has applied to the Boilermakers throughout history. And while the actions of delegates at the 35th Consolidated Convention are now already part of the Boilermakers' storied history, they are at the same time part of the union's future.

That's what President Simmons urged delegates to remember as he ended the Convention—the future of the Brotherhood.

"We have the craftsmen and women. We have the talent. We have the leadership. We have the plan," said Simmons. "Now all we need is every one of us pulling in the same direction. Let us leave this Convention committed to organizing. Committed to recruiting. Committed to training the next generation. Let us go back to our locals committed to standing shoulder to shoulder, regardless of our differences, because what unites us is far greater than anything that divides us." 🙌

Delegates debate, adopt amendments to Boilermaker Constitution

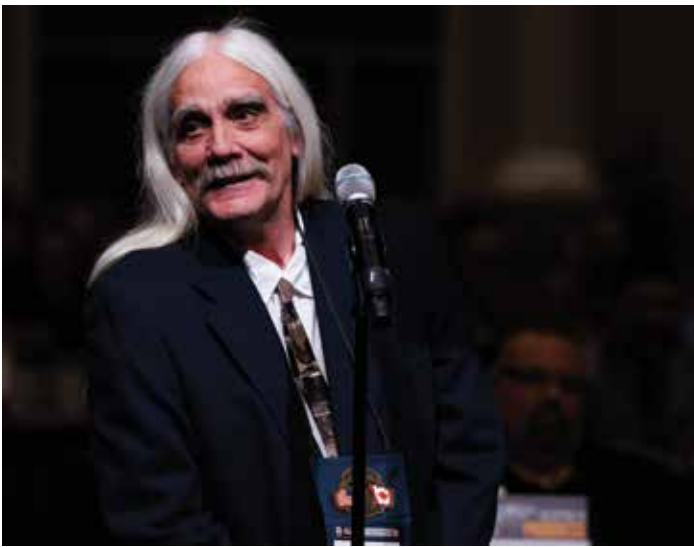
Throughout the week, delegates considered 236 resolutions to amend articles to the Boilermaker Constitution. Several resolutions prompted lively and respectful debate among delegates, resulting in over two dozen changes to the constitution.

Among the proposed amendments that passed, the Law Committee and the International President submitted several changes limiting the sole authority of the president, instead assigning those decisions to the entire International Executive Council. In addition to original proposed amendments brought forth through the Law Committee, the bulk of them were submitted to Headquarters before Convention convened.

Following are summaries of amendments to the Boilermaker Constitution that were adopted by the delegates.

- **Amendment to Article 2.10.3:** This article determines per diem for Convention committees and now requires approval of the International Executive Council in addition to the International President.
- **Amendment to Article 2.13:** This amendment moves the election of officers from eighth order of Convention business to fifth order of Convention business.
- **Article 4.6 and 4.6.1:** This amendment states no delegates who are age 70 ½ or older shall be eligible to be nominated or elected to an International Officer position.
- **Article 4.6.2:** This amendment eliminates severance pay for International Officers upon retirement or death while in office.
- **Article 4.7.2:** This amendment states no International Officer, appointed International Rep or employee of the International shall receive compensation from Bank of Labor for service on its Board of Directors.
- **Article 5.2.3:** Delegates approved a new amendment to the IBB Constitution, which states: “All international travel designated for union business, outside the United States and Canada, must be pre-approved by the Executive Council.”





- **Article 5.3:** This amendment shifts authority from the International President to the International Executive Council to make changes concerning District or Local Lodge trade or work jurisdiction, and their geographical jurisdiction.
- **Article 5.4.1:** This amendment removes sole authority of the International President to consolidate lodges and gives that authority to the International Executive Council.
- **Article 5.6:** The amendment ends the requirement to automatically disband lodges that have fewer than 35 members.
- **Article 5.8:** The amendment increases required International Executive Council meetings from semiannually to quarterly and allows for additional meetings to be called by a majority of the Executive Council.



- **Article 6:** This amendment changes a portion of the article to read: "There shall be an International Board of Trustees consisting of the International Executive Council and the International Secretary-Treasurer, hereinafter called 'Board of Trustees.'" Before adoption, the Board of Trustees only consisted of the President, Secretary-Treasurer and one other IEC member. The new amendment requires the Board of Trustees to consist of the entire IEC and the International Secretary-Treasurer.
- **Article 6.6 and 6.7:** These amendments delete both articles related to the Board of Trustees in their entirety. Article 6.6 covers Term of Office and Filling Vacancies, and 6.7 covers Termination of Responsibility.



- **Article 7.3:** This amendment freezes the salary of the International President for the duration of the Constitution, unless amended at a future Consolidated Convention of the Brotherhood. Therefore, in accordance with Articles 8.2 and 9.4, the salaries of the International Vice Presidents and the International Secretary-Treasurer are adjusted and frozen as well.

- **Article 7.4:** This amendment brought forth by the delegates increases the per diem for International Reps from \$75 to \$125 a day.
- **Article 9.4:** This amendment removes the sole authority of the International President over the International Secretary-Treasurer and gives supervisory authority to the International Executive Council instead.
- **Article 12.2.1:** The amendment updates the per capita tax rate to reflect the change from \$34.95 to its current rate of \$38.95.
- **Article 12.2.2:** The amendment allows the International Executive Council to reduce or waive all annual per capita adjustments when circumstances warrant.
- **Article 12.2.3:** This amendment allows the International Executive Council to waive all or part of the contingency increase when circumstances warrant.
- **Amendment to Article 16.2:** This amendment covers strike benefits. It increases the strike benefit from \$325 to \$375 effective August 1, 2026, for each member in good standing.
- **Amendment to add subsection to Article 17.1:** The amendment covers disciplinary procedures, trials and appeals. Add the additional subsection 17.1.21: "Sexual harassment of any union member or officer."
- **Amendment to Article 21.3.2:** The amendment on Industrial Sector Operations Division Dues updates dues to the current rate moving from \$6 to \$6.50, for the duration of the Constitution.
- **Amendment adds a new division to the Industrial Sector:** "Within the Industrial Sector Operations there shall be a Manufacturing, Blacksmith, Forgers, Stove and Metal Workers Division comprised solely of those members who have an employment relationship with the manufacturing industry in the United States and Canada."



- **Amendment to move the current 21.6.2 to 21.7:** Amend to: “Manufacturing, Blacksmith, Forgers, Stove and Metal Workers division dues shall be equal to the monthly ISO assessment dues, as stated in Article 21.3.2. The Lodge shall transmit to the International Secretary-Treasurer a monthly Per Capita Tax plus the Division dues set forth above.”
- **Amendment to Article 28.2:** This article updates dues to the current rate for Construction Sector members, changing from \$50.85 to \$54.85.
- **Amendment to Article 31.1.2:** This amends the automatic acceptance of an application for transfer of membership. Add to Line 11: “There shall be no deviation from the foregoing requirements without prior approval of the International President.”
- **Amendment to Article 33:** This article concerns salary adjustments of International Reps and staff. Article 33 is deleted in its entirety and replaced with: “Effective August 1, 2026, and on each August 1 thereafter, International Representatives and staff shall receive a wage increase of not more than five percent (5%) unless the Executive Council determines the overall condition of the Brotherhood consolidated funds do not warrant same. In that situation the International Executive Council may approve a lesser amount as it deems appropriate.” This amendment caps the pay increase at 5% and gives the International Executive Council the authority to approve a lesser amount as it deems necessary. 🙌



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Dale Adler	650 – Great Lakes
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Patrick Pennington	D2020 – Southeast
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Jeremy Coppes	D375 – Great Lakes
Benjamin Simmons	D455 – Great Lakes
Frankie Clayton	D595 – Southeast
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 Dustin Cummings 482 – Great Lakes
 Herbie Barron 580 – Canada
 John Adamson 614 – Northeast
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 Terrence Nellum 693 – Southeast
 Martina Taite 693 – Southeast
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IVP-Northeast John Fultz embodied strength, conviction, integrity

The International Brotherhood of Boilermakers will long remember International Vice President – Northeast John Fultz for his dedicated service to the Northeast Section and the union as a whole. Fultz passed away unexpectedly Aug. 13. He will be remembered as unshakable in his convictions and focused sharply on what mattered: the Boilermakers union and his work with the Boilermakers National Funds.

Fultz began building a lifetime career with the Boilermakers immediately after graduating from high school in Oswego, New York. Starting at age 18 as an apprentice with Local 175 (now Local 5, Zone 175), Fultz graduated as a journeyman in 1978 and worked as a field construction Boilermaker until 1997, when he was elected Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer of his local. Over his 53-year Boilermaker career, Fultz was well respected, earning him appointments through the ranks from International Rep to Assistant Director—and then Executive Director—of Construction Sector Operations and Assistant Director of Administrative Affairs. As AD-CSO, Fultz was a vocal advocate for nuclear energy and championed the Vogtle Electric Generating Plant (Plant Vogtle) in eastern Georgia.

In 2017, the International Executive Council elected him to serve as IVP-Northeast upon the retirement of IVP David Haggerty. Fultz was reelected to five-year terms as IVP by each



John T. Fultz
International Vice President
Northeast Section

“John Fultz was a man of integrity and character, and he loved our union. He was a true Boilermaker.”

Timothy Simmons
International President



subsequent Consolidated Convention delegate body, most recently in July 2026.

Consultant Mike Bray, former owner of the contracting firm Shelby Mechanical and past president of MCI/Hake, remembered when he first met Fultz. Bray was in desperate need of an immediate Boilermaker workforce for a trash to steam project. Fultz, as BM-ST of L-5/Zone 175, met that need. That first encounter started a lifelong friendship between the two men.

"We became close," Bray said. "I would run things by him, and he would do the same with me. He was a great man." The two went on to serve on several boards supporting the union such as MOST, Common Arc, Annuity and BNAP to name a few.

"He was extremely conscientious and extremely loyal," Bray said. "John did the right thing every time. He had an impeccable reputation and a charisma about him like no other. They broke the mold when they made him. He was one of a kind. When he passed, it left a great void."

In addition to his duties as Northeast International Vice President, Fultz served on the boards of the Boilermakers National Health and Welfare Fund for 24 years and the Boilermaker-Blacksmith National Pension Trust for 10 years, as well as serving for 14 years as a representative on the Joint Committee on the Administration for the National Funds. He was instrumental in transitioning the Boilermakers National Funds to where it is today.

"Lots of people care, but John cared and got involved, which is not something everyone can say they did. And that was just him. In work and play and in everything he did, he went all out all the time and didn't do anything halfway," said Mario Rodriguez, BNF's Managing Director and Chief Investment Officer.

He was courageous, unafraid to raise questions and challenge the status quo. After wrongdoing was discovered to have been committed by former International President Newton Jones, it was Fultz who filed the Article 17 charges which ultimately led to Jones being stripped of membership and ousted from office.

"Brother Fultz leaves a legacy of dedicated service to the members of our union, and he was a friend to all who knew him," said International President Timothy Simmons. "John Fultz was a man of integrity and character, and he loved our union. He was a true Boilermaker."

As much as Fultz dedicated his time to his work and Boilermaker-related activities, his first love was his family—his wife, Carol Fultz, and his children and grandchildren. His greatest days were when his entire family gathered at his home during the July Fourth holiday, according to the tribute his children wrote. He loved watching his grandchildren catch frogs from the pond, laugh and play, and ride the four-wheelers. He enjoyed being 'Papa' to his grandchildren.

As an avid outdoorsman, who loved working on his property, Fultz enjoyed hunting and fishing and was a long-time participant in the Union Sportsmen's Alliance Kansas City sporting clays fund-raising shoot. In recent years, he'd become a personal champion of USA's Boilermakers Get Youth Outdoors.

In all he did, Fultz had an eye to the future and encouraged everyone around him to do the same. It's a gift imprinted upon all who knew him.

"John wasn't afraid of change, and he instilled that in us," said Christine King, BNF Managing Director and Director of Retirement Plans.

"We're always trying to look forward. John encouraged that. He wanted us to do that. He would want us to do that now." 🙏





NASSCO-Bremerton workers vote yes to unionize

After just three months of a formal organizing campaign, workers at General Dynamics NASSCO in Bremerton, Washington, voted 24-12 in August, saying yes to joining the Boilermakers. The campaign's success was part of a strategy that began with groundwork laid months earlier, seeded initially by NASSCO worker Robert Futch.

Futch knew the value of a union. He is a third-generation union man, worked 14 years as an Ironworker and, most recently, was a Local 104 (Seattle) Boilermaker at Pacific Ship Repair & Fabrication Inc. before it went bankrupt.

"I've known union my whole life, and I've seen both sides of the fence," he says.

Which is why, after Pac Ship closed and he went to work in NASSCO's nonunion environment, he quickly shared in his new coworkers' frustrations. But he knew what to do: He reached out to his former Boilermaker lodge, calling L-104 Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer Richie Browning.

"That was about a year ago," Browning says. He had recalled Futch as a steward at Pac Ship. They agreed it was too early to act, but that Futch would begin taking stock of his new NASSCO ecosystem and check back in when he thought the time was right for next steps.

Some months later, Futch and Browning, along with L-104 Assistant Business Manager/organizer Rob Hodge and Gerad Low, another NASSCO worker who had previously worked at a L-104 facility, met to discuss the situation and put a plan together.

"We hashed out what the needs were at NASSCO since most workers had never been exposed to

a union," Browning says. "They already had a list going for us."

And they got started pulling basic intel together which they provided to the Martin Luther King Jr. County Labor Council's Seattle People's Organizing Center. L-104 is affiliated and actively engaged with the MLK CLC, and the Seattle POC is an innovative program that brings national and local union presidents together to fund and pilot strategies for organizing and workforce development.

Then, it was time to call in the Western States organizers including Director of Western States Organizing Manny Valenzuela and organizers Eddie Rodriguez and Blanca Aguilar.

The organizing team worked to show interns at MLK's People's Organizing Center how to run analytics to obtain the layout of workers, networks of who knew who, identify how many full-time and temp workers were on site, identify management and gather other useful information.

Then the organizers kicked off the tactical part of the campaign, connecting as quickly as possible with workers through regular parking lot visits and text messages, and most importantly by building trust through all means of communication.

"For the most part, people wanted this, but they were scared," Futch says.

Being physically present and available to answer questions was vital. In addition to stationing themselves in the NASSCO parking lot, the organizers also scored a local office thanks to Browning's connections with SEIU Local 925, which offered the Boilermakers their space.

"The communication and the bond we build is a must in organizing," says Aguilar, who saw the

campaign through to the vote as Valenzuela and Rodriguez were called to other campaigns. “You have to build that bond and trust with the workers.”

She says Futch was instrumental in making that happen on the inside. More than once, he stuck his neck out to support coworkers individually: helping write a letter to negotiate a higher pay rate, standing up against improper disciplinary actions and getting them rescinded, advocating to help someone get a promotion.

“Every time, I made the point to say: ‘This is just me, but what I just did is what it’s like when there’s a union. Imagine if we had the backing of a union,’” he says.

The Boilermakers’ proven track record representing NASSCO workers in San Diego also helped gain workers’ trust in the union. Some Bremerton workers had previously worked in San Diego and knew their wages were higher.

“When workers would bring up San Diego’s union representation or advantages those workers had, we used that,” Aguilar says. “We could say ‘So, how come they’re represented and you’re not?’ And they talked about the differences.

“When they would point out that San Diego workers are making more, we said, ‘Yes, because you’re letting them,’ and we talked about how contract negotiation works and how when they organize, it’s their union—they get to decide what they want.”

Reason had an effect on naysayers and against fear. But Futch says some people were simply too afraid to even talk about the union. Some kept their distance from him since he was vocally pro-union and, as he describes, “public enemy number one with the company.” Some warned him he was going to be fired. He used that opportunity to talk about union protections, laws and logic.

“I’d tell them if anything, I should be fired by now, shouldn’t I? But I’m not,” he says. “I think that helped when I pointed out that I’m still there and employed.”

Futch says it wasn’t easy, but every little bit helped.

He recalls one moment in the campaign, standing in the rain waiting for people to finish their shift so he could talk with them. It was pretty miserable.



Organizers and NASSCO workers keep each other motivated at the company gates.

“I got to thinking about how my grandpa and the generations before were dying in the streets for these union rights. And I can’t even just stand out in the rain? That helped me through,” he says.

By the time voting day came around, Aguilar says workers were noticeably more secure. The Boilermakers brought coffee and doughnuts for everyone—including management. Some workers who had been too fearful to associate as pro-union even wanted their pictures taken with the organizers. She describes one young NASSCO worker who made an impression on her when he volunteered to be a vote observer.

“Without knowing anything, he took the reins and said, ‘I’m bringing it home.’ He wanted to be there for the vote count because he was ready for change,” Aguilar says. “Every campaign is different; every need is different. And at NASSCO, this is a change they’ll negotiate.”

Futch looks forward to a new union future. His experience organizing at General Dynamics NASSCO opened his eyes to a different perspective on what it means to be part of a union.

“I know it’s tough, but give back and get at least a little bit involved,” he says. 🍌

IBB wins landslide organizing victory at Georgia Trojan Battery facility

Workers at Trojan Battery in Sandersville, Georgia, made it crystal clear through an 89-23 vote: They wanted a union.

The overwhelming vote in favor of unionizing with the Boilermakers came after a five-month campaign led by Carlos Brooks, Director of Organizing - North America, and Edwin Allen, Southeast Organizer, M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund.

According to Brooks, Trojan workers were ready for better working conditions.

“They needed a voice,” he said.

Brooks said IBB got the tip to call on Trojan Battery workers from Boilermaker Darryl Brookins, a National Cement Lodge member who works at Imerys nearby. Brookins knows Trojan worker Willie C. Carswell and had heard his friend’s complaints about his working conditions. Brookins explained to Carswell how a union works, and then he got in touch with his International Rep, Justin Mundy. Mundy contacted Brooks, and Brooks directed Brookins to the Boilermakers’ Organizing Our Future Incentive Program. Brookins then followed the program’s instructions to provide the lead on Trojan and connections to workers like Carswell inside the facility.

“When I talked to Willie Carswell about the Boilermakers and the union, though, he moved forward with it pretty quick,” Brookins said.

But, as Brooks and Allen went to work to get Trojan workers organized, they knew in a right-to-work state like Georgia, they would need to use all the best tactics and a full arsenal of support.



Southeast Organizer Edwin Allen (left) stands with Trojan Battery worker Willie Carswell outside the facility in Sandersville, Georgia.

“ This organizing win at Trojan Battery is another exciting victory for the Southeast. Brother Carlos Brooks and Brother Edwin Allen are doing a phenomenal job to grow our organization. ”

Jeff Campbell

IVP – Southeast Section

Brookins was one of the people who actively assisted and provided a local perspective and voice. Throughout the campaign, he spoke with Trojan workers about how the Boilermakers represent workers, how workers can get information and how contract negotiations work. And, as a nearby member himself, he candidly answered their questions.

“There were a lot of questions, and I just had to keep encouraging them and saying ‘you’re going to get there,’” Brookins said. He credits International Vice President-Southeast Jeff Campbell with teaching him “how to be calm and cool” as he talked to nervous Trojan workers. He also emphasized the importance of Carswell’s enthusiasm and influence with his coworkers.

Brooks said it was also a boon to have a recent Trojan Battery win on the West Coast to prove to Georgia’s Trojan workers that the Boilermakers union is the real deal. And, he said, Western States organizers contributed invaluable support to the Southeast’s Trojan campaign.

“I want to say special thanks to Rome Aloise,” he said, highlighting his appreciation for the consultant who works with Western States organizing and stepped in to help.

“This organizing win at Trojan Battery is another exciting victory for the Southeast,” Campbell said. “Brother Carlos Brooks and Brother Edwin Allen are doing a phenomenal job to grow our organization.” 🙌

Brookins, Trojan workers and union benefit from incentive program

National Cement Lodge Boilermaker Darryl Brookins is about to cash in on the union’s investment in his assistance. Brookins’ involvement was instrumental in successfully organizing Trojan Battery in Sandersville, Georgia. Brookins, who works at Imerys in the Sandersville area, provided the lead and connections and actively assisted with the organizing campaign that ultimately led to Trojan Battery workers voting “yes” to unionize.

He did that through the Boilermakers’ Organizing Our Future Incentive Program. Announced during the 2025 Industrial Sector Operations Conference, International President Timothy Simmons launched the program as a way to reward Boilermakers and local lodges for their active engagement in the union’s organizing work. Organizing, recruiting and training are top priorities to grow and strengthen the union.

The program offers potential financial incentives to members according to their participation in different organizing steps—plus a matching incentive to their local lodge. Details are outlined on the Organizing Our Future website at www.joinibb.com.

Brookins and his local lodge each earned \$1,000 for his work because he provided the initial, viable lead and inside connection to Trojan Battery and then supported the full initiative to its successful conclusion. He and his lodge will each earn another \$1,000 if he continues to assist Trojan Battery’s new Boilermaker bargaining unit through ratification of their first contract.

But for him it’s not about the money, he says.

“That’s great,” he says. “But the greater sense of pride is organizing. I felt great organizing and knowing we’ll have more members as a union. That’s one of the greatest things; knowing they can have a better workplace.”

Even better, he says other facilities in the area are now on the radar for organizing because they’ve heard about what happened at Trojan Battery—and he’s eager to get started with them. It’s especially exciting in a notoriously antiunion, right-to-work state.

“Some are scared,” he says. “It’s a small town, so I understand why they’d feel that way. I just encourage them and tell them they can have rights as workers as Boilermakers!”

Brookins urges other Boilermakers to get involved with organizing in their areas, find viable leads and help other workers unionize as Boilermakers.

And for the record: He says he never worried or doubted what the outcome of the Trojan Battery vote would be. 🙌



Texas Ash Grove Cement workers act fast to unionize

Workers at Ash Grove Cement in Midlothian, Texas, voted 65-25 in favor of unionizing with the Boilermakers after a swift organizing campaign that began just a month ago.

The rapid success of the campaign is especially remarkable in a notoriously antiunion, right-to-work state like Texas. Carlos Brooks, Director of Organizing - North America, gives credit to the Ash Grove workers.

"They educated their coworkers and kept them engaged throughout the process," says Brooks, who led the campaign along with Southeast Organizer, M.O.R.E. Work Investment Fund Edwin Allen. "They stood strong early on and remained strong throughout the campaign. I was personally impressed, because they all made sure everyone in every department got all the information we provided. Everyone was involved."

This is the most Brooks has seen workers engage and invest themselves in an organizing campaign. He attributes this to their knowledge about Boilermakers' representation in other Ash Grove Cement facilities and being educated about how workers at

those facilities have negotiated contracts with terms and conditions that met their needs.

Turnout for informational meetings and all campaign-related events was the highest Brooks has experienced. For the vote itself, 90 workers out of the 97-worker bargaining unit showed up to cast their votes.

"They were in it together from start to finish, through it all. They showed what solidarity really means," Brooks says.

"I am thrilled that our Southeast organizers have brought another Ash Grove Cement facility into the Boilermaker family," says Jeff Campbell, International Vice President-Southeast Area. "The hard work and organizing success of Brother Brooks and his team in the Southeast is amazing."

Brooks and the organizing team are not resting on their success in Midlothian. After the vote tally came in, another Texas cement facility called and Brooks was on his way.

"Midlothian is the cement capital of Texas," he explains. "If we can get another one organized in Texas, we can get many more." 🙌



Workers and Boilermaker organizers celebrate a win to unionize at Ash Grove Cement in Midlothian, Texas.



Want to help with an organizing campaign?

Check out the Organizing Our Future Incentive Program at www.joinibb.com and see how your help providing a viable organizing lead, active participation in a campaign and other activities can reward you and your local lodge while strengthening the Boilermakers union and benefitting the workers who need union representation across the United States and Canada.

Chuck Hancock elected Northeast International Vice President



Charles T. Hancock
IVP-Northeast

On Thursday, Sept. 3, 2026, the International Executive Council unanimously elected Charles “Chuck” Hancock to the position of International Vice President of the Northeast region. The position was left vacant after the unexpected passing of IVP John T.

Fultz, who served tirelessly in advancing the goals and opportunities of union Boilermakers.

Hancock is a lifelong Boilermaker with a career that’s spanned over three decades, demonstrating his dedication to the craft and community of the Boilermakers. Since starting as a Boilermaker in

1991, he’s worked numerous industrial construction sites and nuclear plants across the United States. That extensive field experience has given him a firsthand understanding of both the challenges and rewards Boilermakers face on the job.

Hancock’s commitment to the Brotherhood led him to leadership roles within Boilermakers Local 29 (Boston, Massachusetts). He was elected Business Manager/Secretary-Treasurer of Local 29 in 2014, after serving as its President since 2008. Prior to being elected to International Vice President - Northeast, he served as International Representative - Construction Sector Operations and M.O.R.E. Work Council Coordinator since 2025.

“Brother Hancock has demonstrated his commitment to the union throughout his three decades in the Boilermakers. We look forward to working with him as he continues his service to the membership,” said International President Timothy Simmons. 🙌



Demand calls for second MOST project management class

Sixteen Boilermakers completed a second session of MOST’s project management class offered in early August in Kansas City, Missouri. The MOST trustees met earlier in the year and agreed demand for the training warranted adding a second class each year going forward. Pictured from the August class are front row, l. to r., Derek Patin, MOST training rep; Smitty Minton, MOST representative; Jacob Sabel, L-647 (Minneapolis, Minnesota); Ryan Burns, L-40 (Elizabethtown, Kentucky); George Kennedy, L-374 (Hobart, Indiana); Josh Halsted, L-69 (Little Rock, Arkansas); Kenneth Steinert, L-169 (Detroit); James Keith and Adam Felty, L-105 (Chillicothe, Ohio); Michael Kirk, L-13 (Philadelphia) and Skipper Branscum, Instructor. Back row l. to r., Mark Garrett, MOST Administrator; Michael Suplizio, Instructor; Richard Ilarrazza and Dillon Griffen, L-92 (Los Angeles); Warren Ortenblad, L-647; Nicholas Neu, L-374; Josh Henneman, L-85 (Toledo, Ohio); Christopher Warren, L-363 (East St. Louis, Illinois); Cory Linderman and John Neale, L-83 (Kansas City, Missouri) and Gerry Klimo, Instructor.



Christy and Mike Tiemann honor their promise to one another only to wed if it took place in Vegas, officiated by Elvis. The wedding party included, l. to r. (with Elvis in front) Great Lakes Area organizer Bryan Cato, IR-ISO Ryan Mroz, Christy and Mike Tiemann and Great Lakes recruiter/organizer Kevin Stewart.

Vegas inspires Boilermaker vows

What happens in Vegas doesn't always stay in Vegas. At least Mike and Christy Tiemann hope not. Not only did they bring "what happened" home with them, they vowed they'd keep it with them for life. The Boilermaker couple got married there while they were in town for the 35th Consolidated Convention.

Mike Tiemann is the President of Local 486 (Litchfield, Illinois), which represents workers at Worksaver, and he helped organize workers at Dometic nearly a year ago. Christy Tiemann serves on Dometic's negotiating committee. When the couple began dating six years ago, they joked on their first date that the only way they'd ever even consider getting married was if the nuptials took place in Las Vegas—and were officiated by Elvis.

The Boilermaker Convention provided for both requirements.

"I never thought I'd have the opportunity to go to Vegas and do this," said Mike Tiemann, who served as a Convention delegate for L-486.

The couple booked their Vegas vows a week or so in advance, thinking it would be just the two of them alone at the altar saying their "I do's." But

when Great Lakes Area recruiter/organizer Kevin Stewart caught wind of their intentions, he insisted they couldn't go alone. Stewart, along with Great Lakes organizer Bryan Cato and International Rep Ryan Mroz formed an impromptu wedding party.

"I think they enjoyed it as much as we did," Mike Tiemann said.

Even the officiating Elvis had Boilermaker and convention ties. When Christy Tiemann mentioned her wedding plans to an Elvis impersonator who was working at a Convention event, he asked where they would be tying the knot. She replied they'd booked the Graceland Wedding Chapel and was surprised when he said, "Well, I own that place!"

"He made it a point to be the Elvis who officiated our ceremony," she said.

Adding another layer of uniqueness, the bride and groom decided against a traditional ring swap. Instead, they opted for more permanent symbols of their matrimony: ring tattoos.

"It all just worked out," said Mike Tiemann. "Good luck, good timing, good wedding."

And good odds for a happy future together. 🍀

Ohio Valley discussion focuses on data center power push

As the 2026 Ohio Valley Tripartite Conference met Aug. 11-12 in Lexington, Kentucky, the area's fast-growing need for amped up energy production prompted some familiar discussion: Data centers are expanding rapidly across America, and each one requires an incredible amount of power to run, which puts more strain on already thinly stretched grids. Many plans to retire reliable fossil power generation, such as coal, have halted, and there's an increased demand for new power generation sources, including nuclear and gas, to be built or retrofit.

It all needs to be constructed or maintained by a skilled and trained workforce—and a lot of that work is Boilermaker work.

"You can't wake up these days and not hear about data centers," said Mike Dorsey, Chief Operating Officer, The Association of Union Constructors and The National Maintenance Agreements Policy Committee.

Dorsey said he describes this as an "era of mega jobs," and he defined a mega job as a project that's over \$1 billion in project value. He said 20 years ago, there were few jobs like that. When there was a \$1 billion job, it was major news.

"Now, across the country, we're tracking 150 different \$1 billion-plus jobs," he said. "What does that mean for manpower in my mind? I've started using the phrase 'unprecedented labor demand.' I've stopped using 'manpower shortage.'"

International Rep and conference organizer Dan DeCarlo knows recruitment is the key to enable Boilermakers to perform this workload. "It's going to take all three tripartite partners to accomplish finding enough people. International President Simmons was correct in his statement that all local lodges need to double or triple their membership in the next five years," he said. "The Ohio Valley Tripartite Conference was not only the first of its

kind but a true tripartite effort. Multiple owners and contractors have offered to assist us any way they can to recruit and thus ensure success for all partners."

Chad Southall, Tennessee Valley Authority Manager Project Agreements, said the Boilermakers union was the only trade that participated with TVA at a local event promoting a career in the trades. He estimated between 700-800 students attended the event and ranged from middle school age to recent high school graduates.

"If we don't utilize the resources and grow the workforce, it's going to be a problem," he said. "We need to adapt with each other on how to make this successful."

TVA mandates 33% apprentice utilization on job-sites, so taking advantage of recruitment opportunities is especially critical.

Mike Tussey, Construction Manager at American Electric Power, echoed the importance of attracting the next skilled and trained workforce into apprenticeship, and he added another layer of concern: training leaders, such as superintendents, among the current workforce.

"The market is being depleted of leadership," he said. "I've had contractors say they weren't interested in bidding work because they didn't feel like they had the management team to support that work."

While Tussey acknowledged it's easy to continue utilizing the veteran tried-and-true leaders to run jobs, he encouraged everyone in the building trades to look for opportunities to train new people, develop their leadership skills and prepare them to replace those who are retiring.

"We're looking for innovation and skilled craftspeople," he said. "There's going to be a plethora of work opportunities between 2027 and 2032."

“We need every single kilowatt we can get; not just every megawatt.”

John Larson
Director of Public Policy and Economic Development
Dominion Energy

Extension to Jones Act waiver threatens US Jobs

In March, the Department of Homeland Security waived the Jones Act at the Defense Department's request after the Strait of Hormuz closed and energy prices spiked. It is the broadest waiver since 1950 and covers roughly 670 categories of energy and agricultural goods. The waiver allows foreign-built, foreign-flagged and foreign-crewed ships to carry cargo between American ports. It was extended in April, then extended again Aug. 17.

Every one of the foreign-flagged ships is taking work that would otherwise go to an American-built ship. The Shipbuilders Council said Chinese-built vessels and Chinese-affiliated operators are picking

up business in American coastal trade under the waiver.

The Boilermakers, in conjunction with other trade unions, filed a Section 301 trade case in March over this issue.

The waiver was granted on national defense grounds. According to the American Waterways Operators, military need for this waiver has not been proved, which is the legal standard, and the waiver hasn't decreased the price of gasoline.

"The longer the waiver runs, the easier it gets to argue the law was never needed," said Director of Government Affairs Bridget Martin. "That argument is already being made." 🙄



For more information about the impact of the waiver, visit the Shipbuilders Council of America at shipbuildersusa.org/ja-waiver-industry-impact

Ohio Valley Tripartite (continued)

While he could not disclose the number of megawatts AEP plans to build in those five years, most of which will be gas plants, "Suffice it to say, it's going to be enough to keep every Boilermaker we can find working."

He said AEP plans to continue maintaining its existing coal-fired units and is investing millions of dollars to keep them running. Many of them are in West Virginia.

"You need that reliable coal generation," said Nathan Hyrne, Director of Business Development at Enerfab. "There's still a benefit to owners to maintain those existing coal assets for the long term. Across the fleet, owners are trying to not only build new gas generation but maintain the coal fleet and start investing in the future of nuclear programs."

Hyrne said gas continues to increase in demand and more nuclear is in the future, as small modular reactors could become viable with additional testing. For now, owners are building combined cycle gas across the board and nuclear retrofits and rebuilds are a top priority.

John Larson, Director of Public Policy and Economic Development for Dominion Energy,

said Dominion also would not be retiring any coal-fired assets in the near term.

"We just can't afford to do it. We have to have that capacity available and online," he said.

Dominion is planning nearly \$55 billion in investment over the next five years in combined cycle, simple cycle and transmission projects. They're also renewing licenses at their existing nuclear facilities.

"There's a tremendous amount of work that's going to be coming about, both at our Surry and North Anna Power Station as we look at that," Larson said. "It's going to be a massive, massive infrastructure increase but we can spend about \$5 billion on each of those sites and basically have units that can run for another 60 years." Far more cost and time effective, he explained, than building new.

Data centers, he said, are the biggest demand driver for increased power generation. He pointed out that data storage has skyrocketed 700% since the COVID-19 pandemic. Data centers will continue to expand.

"We need every single kilowatt we can get; not just every megawatt," he said. 🙄

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SERVICE PINS

The following pins have been presented in recognition of continuous years of service in the Boilermakers union as reported by local lodge leadership.

LOCAL 1 • CHICAGO

65 YEARS	Gary Metcalfe
55 YEARS	Jerome Petralia
25 YEARS	Graciano Paramo
20 YEARS	Bernard Grant, Jose Sanchez

LOCAL 5 • FLORAL PARK NY

35 YEARS	Carl S. Brundige, Daniel Lambert, Gregory R. Peterson
30 YEARS	Wade T. Engel
25 YEARS	Roy Bruno, Thomas Hall, Philip Javetski, James T. Medlin, Joseph S. Norton, Dallas J. O'Brien
20 YEARS	William R. Bailey Jr., Adam R. Hewitt
15 YEARS	Andrew P. Fultz, Deonarine Roopnarain

LOCAL 26 • STATESBORO GA

50 YEARS	Daniel L. Barnum, Wallace C. Boatright, Gary Eddie Crews
45 YEARS	Raldon S. Crumpton, William G. Griffin, Mark B. Munn
40 YEARS	Joseph L. Delk Jr.
35 YEARS	Jeffery M. Feagin, Morgan R. Rush
25 YEARS	Arthur F. Martin
20 YEARS	Michael Preston Sr.
15 YEARS	Nicholas R. Koster

LOCAL 60 • PEORIA IL

65 YEARS	Thomas Miskell, Joseph Wolschlag
60 YEARS	James Chavez, John Yusko
30 YEARS	Joseph Eppy, Gerald Wallace
25 YEARS	Jeffery England, Charles Evans, Dennis Huizenga, Gary Morrison
20 YEARS	Josh Whitehead
15 YEARS	Jacob Bieneman, Michael Hertter, Keith Lemme, James Strode, Joshua Ward

LOCAL 83 • KANSAS CITY MO

60 YEARS	Claudie L. Simmons, Bobby E. Simpson
50 YEARS	Morris O. Anderson, Alan Beikmann, Fred M. Evans Jr., Thomas J. Gregg, Joseph Porrello III, Tommy C. Maynard, Marlin D. McGowin, James E. Osbourn, David A. Stine
45 YEARS	Kelvin P. Broyles, Kent W. Dunn, George D. Ford, Michael J. Miller, Robert M. Wharton
40 YEARS	Wayne A. Parsons
35 YEARS	Mark Branscum, David J. Gregg, James L. Rogers Sr.
30 YEARS	William K. Nelson, Trong Duc Nguyen
25 YEARS	Harold H. Didricksen, Gordon J. Gorajewski, Jason L. Irvin, Michael B. Pachmayr
20 YEARS	Terry J. Hermreck, Vincent Hernandez, John P. Jones, Michael R. Lansdown, Cole Mason, Stephen G. Willard
15 YEARS	Daniel P. Binder, Arthur V. Bratkov, Jerry Decker, Robert P. McKenna, Minh Ngoc Vo

LOCAL 359 • VANCOUVER BC

55 YEARS	William Campbell, Guido Cecchinell, Bill Elasoff, Danny Gillcash, Dave Gollan, Robert Haller, Claude Joyal
50 YEARS	Richard Birby, John Crockett, Peter Giesbrecht, Alan Graff, Richard James
45 YEARS	Darrell Gollan
35 YEARS	Dennis Black, Rory Griffin, Simon Kiss, Brian Reeves, Lance Rode
30 YEARS	Sandra Callahan, George Findlay, Jason Dean Grunlund, Allan Wilson
25 YEARS	Doug Phipps, Eugene Volkhin

LOCAL 363 • EAST ST. LOUIS IL

65 YEARS	Thomas Davis Jr.
60 YEARS	Paul Conlee
55 YEARS	Steven Bauer, Stephen Webster
50 YEARS	Stanley Banks, Robert Jackson
40 YEARS	Luke Spurlock
35 YEARS	Jason Cutsinger, Alan Gregory, Kenny Johnson
25 YEARS	William Browning, Roger Cruthis, Matthew Deshazo, James Jackson, Johnny Johnson, Dale McKinney, Jason Sandusky, Andrew Schnaare, Chad Szczeblewski, Steven Wondolofski
20 YEARS	Rocky Bennyhoff, Bruce Caudle, Kelly Halter, Justin Powers, Jeremy Scott

Moving?



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LOCAL 433 • TAMPA FL

60 YEARS	Johnny Steve Hemby
20 YEARS	Paul "Gumby" Patrick, Doug Steponaitis

LOCAL 614 • NEW LONDON CT

50 YEARS	Josephine Dacosta
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LOCAL 667 • CHARLESTON WV

60 YEARS	Michael P. Cottrill, Theodore R. Wright
55 YEARS	Thomas C. McCormick, Stephen S. McGraw, Larry B. Priddy, Gary W. Swisher, Herman A. Taylor, Earl S. Yost
50 YEARS	James M. Bell, Gregory B. Bush, Stephen C. Carpenter, Kenneth C. Cheuvront, Steven D. Deem, Gerald W. Drenner, James R. Gerlach, Paul F. Hedrick, Larry A. Johnson, Robert L. Mattingly, Dwight W. Sayre, Robert W. Smith, Roger K. Stewart, Daniel T. Stout, Donald L. Young
45 YEARS	Ardath E. Casto Jr., James B. Deems, Fred E. Detwyler III, Rodney Hopkins, Patrick Keller, Hans Mayberry, Dale W. Taylor
40 YEARS	David A. Casto, Gregory S. Johnson, Garland R. White
35 YEARS	Curtis A. Ball, Robert Cook Jr., David W. Duffield, Edwin L. Dulaney, Stephen F. Goddard Sr., Robert James Hall, Donald O. Hudson, Joseph B. Huggins, Mark D. Hurlow, Ricky D. Kesterson, Bill W. Murphy, Todd R. Tippins
30 YEARS	Gregory McClung, Joshua Rockwell
25 YEARS	Gregory A. Andrews, Matthew A. Bell, Larry E. Boley, Jeremy Brown, Kevin Paul Brown, George W. Cain Jr., Matthew P. Cheuvront, Michael E. Cleek, John Clonch, Ronald E. Cody, Daniel L. Cogar II, Craig A. Coon, Gary Cooper, Jeremy W. Cumpston, Carroll G. Daniels, Joshua Dari Dennison, Chris A. Duncan, John T. Endicott, James Ennos, Okey B. Eye, Thomas E. Ferguson, David Bruce Forshee, Rodney S. Gooden, Darren H. Hall, George L. Harriss, Johnathan C. Jeffers, Michael Lee Joy, Otto K. Koch, Steven L. Lancaster, Mario P. Marinucci, James C. Moore, James T. Moore, Keith K. Mullins, Gerald A. Northup, Timothy Edward Parson, Ryan F. Patterson, James A. Rector, David L. Sheets, Ryan Statler, Jason J. Steed, Leland J. Tennant, Jason Charles Wicker, Roland E. Will, Harry Leslie Yost, William W. Young
20 YEARS	Tom Abbott, Bradford D. Alford, Jarrod Anderson, Ricky L. Brookover II, Victor E. Chambers, Sean Dufford, David Lee Fetty, Bryan O. Hall, Edson D. Hart, Matthew G. Hill, Charles R. Hinkle, Joshua D. Holley, Dennis L. Kuhn Jr., Estel R. Lavender, Marvin C. Nestor, Roy W. Soles, Blaine A. VanScyoc, Anthony Wells
15 YEARS	Mitchell Ray Eddy, Michael T. Griffith, Carla Y. Wilkins

LOCAL D480 • CHARLEVOIX MI

15 YEARS	Jeff Burns, Matthew Deschermeier
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Local Lodge leaders can submit service pins for fulfillment and inclusion in The Reporter online at boilermakers.org/leaders/resources/pins

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.



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 Adams, Michael K.	72 Taylor, Edward E.	169 Barr, Cary U.	549 McWhorter, Harold D.
NTL Barefoot Jr., Russell J.	72 Thielke, Raymond L.	169 Hubert, Nicholas R.	568 Mason, Matthew H.
NTL Chubbuck, Kenneth T.	72 Watts, Jack D.	169 Schultz, Kevin J.	568 Tonasket, Lucille M.
NTL McDuffie, Charles E.	73 Smith, Brian	174 Clintsman, Theodor	568 Yi, Hyok R.
NTL Neal, Wallace C.	74 McNeese, Ervin	174 Waldvogel, Paul D.	582 Rider Jr., Leroy
NTL Rollag, Virgil C.	79 Norwood, Danny	175 Barker, Claude F.	587 Craft Jr., Willie H.
NTL Smith, Carl D.	83 Lowery, Dale W.	175 Clark, Roger	590 Godfrey, Harold D.
NTL Thomas Jr., Roosevelt	83 Lynn, Daniel T.	175 Gagne, Gilles R.	590 Martin, Mary L.
NTL Welch, Ward G.	83 Smiezek, David L.	182 Honeycutt, Willard D.	627 Martin, James D.
NTL Zdunich, Branimi D.	85 Ackerman, F. L.	182 Sweat, Burton K.	627 Stephenson, Steven L.
1 Bauer, Frank G.	92 Morelli, Roland D.	193 Dillow, Wade L.	647 Graham, Leonard L.
1 Desantis, Gaetano	101 Martin, Michael	193 Gertz Jr., Henry	647 Krueger, Robert L.
1 Fuentes, Angel M.	104 Boschee, Harlan H.	193 Gold, Eldon P.	647 Sargent, Douglas
1 Garcia, David	104 Federmeier, Darryl T.	193 Hanks, Orlan C.	650 Liljeval, Melvin P.
1 Matusky, Gregory S.	104 Hopkins, Allan W.	193 Moon, Clark J.	656 Beene, John R.
5 Fultz, John T.	104 Jacobson, Delyal W.	193 Nowakowski Jr., John F.	656 Skyles, Dewey L.
5 Manniello, Richard J.	104 Joaquin, Charles	193 Royston, Barry J.	667 Westfall, Lawrence O.
5 McDonald, Robert V.	104 Ottoson, Robert N.	199 Vonesche, Fred	677 Bannon Jr., Frank D.
6 Allmon, J. C.	104 Shook, Willis A.	202 Howard, Billy L.	687 Burke, Clifford M.
6 Alvarado, Alberto J.	107 Balchitis, Joe	204 Rodrigues, Lawrence	687 Szarowicz, Paul J.
6 Johnson, Jimmie D.	107 Meismier III, John P.	242 Kelley, Robert O.	696 Beaudou, David L.
6 Villalba, Jose	107 Wermter, David M.	242 Schuler, Jerald W.	696 Powell, Todd M.
10 Winter, William A.	108 Davis, Garry B.	263 Nunn, Billy M.	744 Burkhart, John P.
13 Bailey Jr., Daniel	110 Bates, James E.	263 Reed, David R.	744 Kent, Charles A.
13 Bernotas, Michael	110 Hester, Tomas L.	290 Hawk, Michael L.	802 Lavoie, Medore J.
13 Murphy, Benjamin P.	112 Boyd, Richard W.	329 Walker, James M.	900 Sewell, Robert
13 Vance, James W.	112 Burke, Tommy A.	343 Davis, James	1086 Davis, Edmond
13 Watkins, Harry L.	112 Goff Sr., Marvin M.	359 Kern, Horst	1234 Jordan, Anice
13 Willard, Robert M.	112 Ray Jr., Paul E.	359 Lyttle, Jeremy J.	1247 Berry, Howard
26 Cowart Jr., William J.	113 Brown, Jimmy V.	359 Wymer, James W.	1247 Peabody, Michael S.
26 Groover, W. W.	117 Bachand, Vernon G.	363 Nelson, D. W.	1509 Hill, Gregory T.
26 Yanner, James C.	117 Olaf, Raymond R.	374 Mains, Ronald	1509 Schrank, Scott A.
27 Barnes, Brice A.	128 Aylward, Matthew P.	374 Patton, Charles L.	1510 Dornan, Jimmy D.
27 Jauss, Michael	128 Tomlinson, Donald K.	433 Findley, Samuel	1603 Marshall, Floyd E.
28 Clarke Jr., Philip	128 Wilson, Lauren A.	433 Kelly, Thomas R.	1622 Taylor Sr., Daniel
28 Topel, D. Paul	146 Bedard, Ross J.	454 Bivens Jr., Verlon J.	1622 Wade, Warren A.
29 Roeber, Roger E.	146 Coddington, David C.	454 Vaughn, Matthew T.	2000 Hatlan, Robert J.
30 Motley, David L.	146 Garvey, Audie C.	455 Anderson, Michael D.	D173 Altman, Weston
30 Walton, Markus S.	146 Korner, Ernst	455 Parker, Donnie R.	D472 Barden, Daniel L.
37 Conrad, Creig	146 Mifsud, John B.	455 Pearson, E. E.	S2 Mullins, Devin L.
37 Ford Sr., Charles W.	146 Stenberg, Eric	455 Turman Jr., William H.	
40 Harned, John H.	146 Willemsen, Pieter J.	500 Baker, Larry R.	
40 Patrick, James E.	146 Wolanuk, Preston A.	502 Boyd, Charles E.	
40 Remington, Lloyd A.	146 Wollbaum, Jeffrey	502 Burns, Ronald L.	
60 Lochbaum, Rodney L.	146 Yang, Jing	502 Kainu, Richard H.	
60 Nelsen, Myron D.	146 Zurburg, Jerome A.	502 Oversby, Jackie	
72 Baker, James B.	154 Barton Jr., John L.	531 Bengel, Jeffrey L.	
72 Barnard, Ronald G.	154 Cunningham, James F.	549 Andrews, David D.	
72 Eggison, Michael W.	154 Herndon, Gary L.	549 Dreiling, Michael A.	
72 Kell, Leland R.	154 Molnar, Michael E.	549 Hulsebus, Robert L.	
72 Kloberdance, Barry J.	154 Rihn, Larry R.	549 Jimenez, Alfredo	

Our Apologies

Robert H. Jones II of Local 549 was mistakenly listed as deceased in the Summer 2026 issue of the Boilermaker Reporter. Brother Jones is very much alive. We regret the error and any confusion or concern that may have resulted from this incorrect information.

The U.S.S. Kitty Hawk and need for the Jones Act

A milestone in maritime history was marked on Armed Forces Day, May 21, 1960, with the christening of the super carrier U.S.S. Kitty Hawk at the New York Shipbuilding Corporation in Camden, New Jersey. Members of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers' now shuttered Lodge 801 were on hand to share in the spotlight and excitement along with many distinguished guests.

The christening ceremonies climaxed almost four years of work by Boilermakers and other union members at the New Jersey firm, the second largest shipbuilding company in the United States at the time. The U.S.S. Kitty Hawk was the first aircraft carrier in the U.S. Navy to be armed with guided missiles. She was christened by Mrs. Neil H. McElroy, wife of the former Secretary of Defense, before a cheering holiday crowd of more than 25,000 onlookers.

As the principal speaker for the occasion, Secretary of the Navy William Franke offered a tribute to union members whose skilled labor built U.S.S. Kitty Hawk.

"From the decks of the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk, we will operate the most modern of jet aircrafts. But this would not be possible, regardless of technical progress, if it were not for the individual skill, industry and initiative of the men and women who have built her. For no matter how well a ship is designed, her performance rests with those who have contributed their skills to her construction."

Many of those skilled trade workers were Boilermakers. Leon Johnson, President and acting Executive Secretary of Lodge 801, gave credit to the men and women in his local for the ships they'd built over the years.

"Since the union's start, we have worked on most of these ships," said Johnson. "Among them have been such illustrious ships as the SS Savannah, the world's first nuclear-powered passenger-cargo vessel, which heralded the beginning of the atomic age in commercial shipbuilding when it was launched here last July. Others include the



The U.S.S. Kitty Hawk is the first aircraft carrier in the U. S. Navy armed with guided missiles. The 60,000-ton carrier was built by Boilermakers and other union trades.

battleships Michigan, Oklahoma, Idaho and South Dakota; the giant passenger liners Washington and Manhattan; and the aircraft carriers Saratoga, Independence, Saipan and Bataan."

Shipbuilding is Boilermaker work. And in the 1920s, Congress saw the need to protect American shipbuilding, which translated into jobs for union members who built ships and for those who transported goods between U.S. ports. And it protected national security.

In 1920, Congress passed the Merchant Marine Act, sponsored by Washington Senator Wesley Jones. Section 27 became known as the Jones Act. It concerned the United States' need for a strong merchant marine for national defense and economic security after World War I. The law established that goods transported between U.S. ports must generally be carried on vessels that are U.S.-built, U.S.-flagged, U.S.-owned and predominantly crewed by U.S. citizens or lawful permanent residents.

From the 1920s through today, the law has become a cornerstone of U.S. maritime policy. Supporters, such as the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, argued the Jones Act protected American shipbuilding, maritime jobs and the nation's ability to maintain a merchant fleet and trained mariners. Critics argued that requiring domestic cargo vessels to be U.S.-built makes them significantly more expensive and can increase transportation costs.

The Jones Act is once again under fire, this time from the Trump Administration that waived Section 27, first in March and again in August. As history shows, it's imperative to continue the fight to protect it. This fight is not only necessary to protect union jobs—like the jobs our members had when they built the U.S.S. Kitty Hawk—but for national defense as well. 🇺🇸

Read more about the Jones Act waiver on page 32.

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