Members from 11 States Attend First SSMRC Delegates Meeting

In the list of positive milestones the Southern States Millwright Regional Council (SSMRC) is achieving, one of the most recent marks is also one of the most important. In February, delegates from all 11 states gathered in Little Rock to attend the first delegates meeting of the Council.

Guest speakers at the meeting were Arkansas Attorney General Dustin McDaniel, UBC General Vice President Doug Banes, UBC Southern District Vice President Danny Maples, and Dennis Donahou, Executive-Secretary Treasurer of the SSMRC.

The delegates represent more than 5000 SSMRC millwrights. During the course of the meeting, delegates approved the Council’s work rules and bylaws. (CONSIDER EITHER PUBLISHING THESE DOCS IN THE NEWSLETTER OR PUT IN A SENTENCE HERE OF WHERE TO GET A COPY IF INTERESTED)

In his comments, Attorney General McDaniel commended those in attendance for their willingness to be leaders of the Council and thanked the UBC for “doing what’s right all the way down the line.”

Donahou agreed and described the delegates as the backbone of the Council. Donahou also charged delegates with focusing on the primary task of securing work for the membership. “Putting our members to work is what we’re here for. It’s what we do every day — day in and day out,” Donahou said. “We must open doors for them — keeping those doors open will be their job via their skills and productivity.”

UBC General VP Doug Banes updated delegates on what is happening to secure work from a national level. Meetings with

Continued on page 10
Dear Millwright,

Creating a Millwright Council with nine locals across 11 states was challenging, to say the least. It was also rewarding as I traveled throughout the Council jurisdiction and saw the excitement of the members, contractors and end users. End users such as utilities, car plants, the paper industry and petro-chemical plants see the advantage of a large, millwright-exclusive Council with more than 5,000 members. Contractors see the advantage of a mobile workforce across a large area by supplying their customers with a more productive, well-trained millwright. When end users see that a contractor has a more stable workforce, they in turn will award additional projects to that contractor.

WHAT THIS MEANS TO YOU: the member, is more job opportunities and a better chance of a continuous income year instead of a seasonal one, as well as a better chance of keeping your benefits最大化 so that you’re family always has insurance and your retirement plans can be fulfilled.

As our industry changes, our customers - the end users - are looking at the building trades differently. They are turning to contractors who have the ability to man the work with an adequate number of workers who are well-trained and have a good attitude and work ethic.

The Southern States Millwright Regional Council was created at exactly the right time for these changes.

The industry is looking at us as the answer to manpower needs on their projects. Are we ready to meet this challenge? Are we as members of this new Council ready to step up and be the leaders of the industry? The answer is ‘yes.’ In fact, we have already assumed this role. The projects across the South have increased dramatically in the past six months and the members of the SSMRC have manned these projects without fail.

Contractors and end users alike have taken notice and have attributed these successes to the access and mobility of the SSMRC Membership.

Since the formation of this Council, membership and man-hours have increased and the work load for the rest of 2011 looks positive. This Council has the foundation in place to meet the challenges we face. We have some of the most experienced and dedicated business representatives in the entire Brotherhood, a training staff in each area that is second-to-none, and training centers that are state-of-the-art. More importantly, we have the most talented workforce available in the south: Our members.

We have been given the chance that millwrights for years have asked for: Our own Council. With that move comes the responsibility of making it work. We are in control of our destiny and we must, as members, step up to the plate and:

1. Take advantage of all training available
2. Show up everyday, all day, with a good attitude
3. Man all projects
4. Respect each other, our contractors, and the plant personal we work with.

If we do these four simple tasks, the work will come to us.

In closing, I want to thank the staff of the SSMRC for working with me to build this Council. The business representatives, training department, and office staff in each area have all been very professional in their approach to making this Council something we can be proud of.

Finally, I want to thank you, the member, for the respect you have shown to me as I visited each Local meeting and area job sites. Working together, we will accomplish what we all want: A better life for our families.

Sincerely
Dennis Donahou, Executive Secretary Treasurer
Southern States Millwright Regional Council

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The Importance of Productivity

It’s no secret what attributes are viewed as keys to being a successful UBC Millwright: Skill. Productivity. Attitude. In fact, flipping through this newsletter should produce to the reader the importance of daily high levels of productivity that every SSMRC member is expected to produce.

LABOR IS HISTORICALLY ONE OF, if not the, most expensive part of a building or renovation project. The demand to be productive has never been more important, as budgets are shrinking and work schedules are accelerating. That scenario sets the stage for union millwrights to excel, thanks to their experience, training, and work ethic.

Industry studies are able to draw direct links to contractor profitability based on productivity of the work crew. In fact, just a 10 percent increase in productivity reaps a 100 percent increase in profitability, and vice versa - just a 10 percent dip in productivity cuts profitability in half.

Productivity is not only attained on the jobsite, it is also found around the work area, as well. By shaving 24 minutes of down-time from the manpower each day, profitability hikes 50 percent. Double that to saving 48 minutes of down-time, and profitability increases 100 percent. Those minutes can be recaptured by clocking in on time, keeping to the allotted break time, taking a true 30 minute lunch, and working until quitting time.

For example - taking an extra five minutes in the morning break may seem insignificant to the individual, but if the half of a 20-man crew does that, suddenly that five minutes grow to 50 minutes of extra down-time, every day. Times that by a five-day work week, and productivity is hindered by 250 minutes - or more than four hours - each week. Each month? That’s more than 16 hours lost. Now add in getting back to work five minutes late after lunch. Same math - same loss. But combined with that slip on the morning break, and now we have a full 8-hours lost each week, and nearly a week of work lost every month.

“Productivity is our number one issue,” said Howard Guhne, Southeast Operations Manager for Atlantic Plant Maintenance, one of the largest employers of millwrights in the SSMRC.

“We believe productivity is a result of excellent safety and quality. If we can get our safety and quality in check, we will keep the men working.”

The lack of safety is a clear productivity killer. Accidents have to be recorded with OSHA and affect insurance rates. Carelessness by a few causes the contractor to pay higher rates for the whole workforce.

Guhne also said the the need for re-work can contribute significantly to a project’s costs if the millwrights aren’t skilled in the task at hand. If the work is done improperly, the job must be done again. Worse, if the error caused
Fel...
SSMRC4070.org Keeps 11 States of Millwrights Under One Roof

n interactive, content-packed web site is now available for all members of the SSMRC to use to quickly access a host of information about their work and their Regional Council.

Located at www.SSMRC4070.org, the recently-released website offers data about all of the Council’s Locals, Staff, Training Programs, Events, News, and Jobs.

WHY WE DO WHAT WE DO

In two clicks, site visitors are shown the information distribution for both members and workforce available for our partners, the providers of the “most highly trained, productive workforce available for our partners, the

Home page

Why We Are

Interested in how the Council is structured? Check out the Staff page.

How We Excel

Clicking on the Training page results in another interactive map. Clicking on a state produces the current training schedule of that area. It is incredibly important to get to know this page and use it often!

What’s Going On

Events and News buttons announce meetings and offers industry-related information.

When We Work

The final tab is perhaps the most important: Jobs. This bulletin-board format posts the need for manpower. This is another page that should be visited often.

New Council Earns Good Marks From page 1

of union millwrights, UBC General President Douglas McCarron created the SSMRC, a regional council consisting of only millwrights.

“This unique council would not have been created if we didn’t have a leader like Dennis Donahou to lead it,” said Danny Maples, Southern Region Vice President of the UBC.

Prior to being tapped to steer the SSMRC, Donahou held the same position for the Arkansas Regional Council of Carpenters when the UBC formed that Council in 1997. There he led a consistent increase in work opportunities for his members, and forged successful relationships with those in the local construction industry. His new duties require oversight of millwrights in Florida, Georgia, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma, Texas, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Tennessee.

“This is an outstanding opportunity for our customers to access the best-trained, most highly-qualified millwright professionals in a more seamless, efficient manner,” Donahou said.

Howard Guhne, Southeast Operations Manager for Atlantic Plant Maintenance said the new organization is a welcome change. “I think there’s nothing but an upside to it. With an 11-state Council, we can draw members throughout the southeast and get the best of the best. It’s better for the contractors,” Guhne said. "I also think it’s a good idea to have millwrights reporting to millwrights, so that everyone is speaking the same language."

“I have all the confidence in the world in this Council,” said UBC General Vice President Doug Banes.

“Our corporate partners look at us as part of the team and if we deliver the exceptional skills and productivity that our members are capable of delivering, this Council will be a great success.”

Business Representative Updates

Local 216

By Donnie Newton, Business Representative

Brothers and Sisters, we are coming off a busy turbine season and most all apprentices put to work did well. I’m looking into the evaluations and feedback from our employers on your performance. I hope you conducted yourself with a great attitude and a willingness to work hard and learn. This is the image we strive to project to the working community. The work we provide to our contractors and the customer is a key part in our ability to bargain wages and benefits for each and every one of us, and our families.

ALONG WITH YOUR EFFORTS, Dennis Donahou, Executive Secretary Treasurer and Rich Heflin, Western Region Director have been able to bring the opportunity to work in some facilities we haven’t worked in for a long time, such as Mustang and Horse Shoe Lake Power plants. This is a trend we would like to see expanding here in Oklahoma. We now have millwrights working for Williams Construction out of Pryor Oklahoma on two different jobs. It is very important that we do well in laying the ground work in those areas so that we can hold on to this new share of the market here in Oklahoma and continue to expand over both states.

Remember, you - the member - make it happen for us with good attitudes, training, and being dependable. There are a couple of areas where we can help ourselves. For instance, if you are not able to make a call out for some reason, call me as soon as possible so that I might be able to get another member in that place. Most of the time the contractor will not fill that spot until after the show-up date has passed. That could be one of our Brothers or Sisters that may have been able to work and not let the contractor or our members shorthanded on that job.

When you work outside our two states and get your benefits reciprocated back to our fund, do it at the beginning of the job and not near the end. This is your responsibility, not the secretary’s, and will give us the best chance of having all of your hours accounted for. You should hang on to your check stubs as well. You will at least get a statement from funds office. The phone number to the funds office is 866.675.0559. Put it in your phone because it is a good number to have with you at all times.

We need all of our members to fill out and return your 4% dues authorization cards and send them back in to Russellville. If you don’t know your UBC number, leave it blank. We have the number on file, and we can fill it for you. Sent along with the card you received in the mail with a new copy of the work referral systems rules. It states that to be eligible for call out, all dues have to be paid current. Those days of waiting until you’re working to pay up are over. So now, more than ever, if it will be beneficial to pay ahead than to get behind. With your help in these areas you will help me to help you.

Finally, our new Council web site has lots of information as well. Go to www.ssmrc4070.org to get caught up on training and other issues. Keep up the good work, work safely, and call me with any questions you have. If I don’t have the answer, I’ll get you one.

Local 279

By Kevin Curley, Business Representative

Brothers and Sisters, we are coming off a busy turbine season and most all apprentices put to work did well. I’m looking into the evaluations and feedback from our employers on your performance. I hope you conducted yourself with a great attitude and a willingness to work hard and learn. This is the image we strive to project to the working community. The work we provide to our contractors and the customer is a key part in our ability to bargain wages and benefits for each and every one of us, and our families.

FUTURE WORK that we are preparing for includes Fluor Maintenance and Turner Industrial Maintenance. Fluor Maintenance has two outages scheduled in the fall of 2011 at Big Cajun II. Big Cajun II is a fossil fuel coal burner NG Power Plant located in New Roads, Louisiana. Millwrights are needed for the turbine and outage. Turner Industrial Maintenance has an 18-month outage that started in May at PCS Nitrogen, a chemical plant located in Geismar, Louisiana. Turner will be performing work in the ammonia unit for the outage.

Day & Zimmerman is aggressively bidding the turbine work at all of the Entergy power plants. Entergy informed Day & Zimmerman that they are considering awarding them the work on the turbine valves located at Waterford 1 & 2. If Day & Zimmerman is awarded the work on the turbine valves, they will perform this work in the fall of 2011.

Members - remember to fill out a skill code sheet in order to be dispatched to a job through MIX 20/20. If you haven’t done so already, please call the Local Union and they will mail you one.

By the Numbers

Continued from page 1

$40.00 to $31.00 effective May 1, 2011.

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Hello Brothers and Sisters, I have been the Business Representative for millwright Local 1192 since September of 2010. It has been a great learning experience, but all-in-all it’s truly been my pleasure and I hope you feel I am doing you justice. I truly believe if we stick together and have the right attitude, initiative, and work ethic we can turn Local 1192 around and recapture our fair share of the construction/maintenance Industry.

As your new Business Representative I have seen places that we all need to improve, such as management and membership, and we should all be making every effort to make those changes, but let’s move on to work.

IT HAS BEEN A BARN-BURNER since September with plenty of work in all areas. We have been busy people. Local 1192 now has an estimated 630 active working members. We have managed to keep the majority of the members employed and have had to call in reserves from time to time. Toyota and TK Steel have been great sources of employment. We are working with several contractors and the Building Trades to acquire maintenance contracts at both of these facilities. The power houses have been a great source of employment and the upcoming year looks good as well. We achieved something in March I haven’t seen in my 20 years as a millwright here in our area. We landed conveyor work at Huntsville Airport and we are currently chasing down the Birmingham Airport Project as well. So, work has been good in 2012’s area and I can see a great future here if we apply ourselves in the proper manner. Now let’s move on to training.

I can’t stress enough how important it is for members to get involved in the training programs that the UBC offers. Trained craftsmen give millwrights a better advantage of being able to capture our market share. As individuals, it gives each of you who apply yourselves greater opportunities for employment. Please call your instructors and let them help you get the training that our industry is going to be requiring in the near future. Let’s move on to the Local’s facilities.

The remodeling we currently have underway is taking a little longer than we anticipated, but overall it is going well, and I would suggest any and all to drop by and check it out. I have saved the best for last and that is our new council. The Southern States Millwright Regional Council (SSMRC). Brothers and Sisters, I can’t say enough about this new council. I believe we have some of the best leaders in place that we have ever had and the focus is on millwrights and putting millwrights to work. If you haven’t looked us up I would like to invite you to check us out at www.ssmrc.org. This new website is constantly getting better and offers a tremendous amount of information. Thanks for the opportunity to serve you. God Bless.

Hello everyone. Here is an update from Local 1241:

The National Maintenance Agreement has been requested for expansion work at General Motors Plant in Arlington, Texas. Securing union construction jobs. General Motors announced it plans to expand the body shop at their vehicle assembly plant in Arlington. The plant currently produces sport utility vehicles such as Tahoes, Suburbanas, GMC Yukons, and Cadillac Escalades. Currently General Motors is working with city, state, and county officials for tax incentives and abatements to finalize the deal. From all indications, it seems the plan to expand will go forward. There are varying dollar amounts being reported on how much General Motors will spend on the expansion. It will be a big boost to the economics in the area and for the millwrights as well as other crafts.

Reports are the expansion will start in late July of 2011 and continue through May 2012.

LOCAL CONTRACTOR: A Plus Construction makes one of many big lifts, utilizing one of the largest “rubber tire” cranes in the area whilst working to the Owners Caming V2 Penthouse renovation project. A Plus was awarded a large package on the V2 Penthouse project. Although a more than normal windy April kept the crane down more than expected, they used every opportunity to make picks and kept the project on schedule. A Plus Construction has been in business since 1984 and has continually employed local millwrights throughout the area. President Les Simonek and Vice-President Dean Simonek are both employed local millwrights throughout the Dallas/Fort Worth area. Member have the capability to receive training certificates or update welding certifications anywhere they might be working. Some of these centers are equipped with libraries that house all types of reference manuals. All of this will make each one of us a better craftman.

An important reminder: If you have the old PPS system on your phone number in your phone, delete it, and put in the new number 800-679-9434. This is the only number for job dispatches. At the first of the year, the Health and Welfare Funds were merged into MSCRC Health and Welfare Fund and Tri-States Health and Welfare Fund. Here are a couple of reminders: First, new ID cards were issued – dispose of the others. Some members are trying to file claims with the former Zenith Administrators. Second, if you travel to other areas and you had reciprocal forms on file sending your Health and Welfare to your previous fund, you will need to update those reciprocals and have your hours sent to the new fund in Goodlettsville, TN. Take the time to check out our Council’s new web site: www.ssmrc.org  And for E-Mail information from the UBC go to www.carpenters.org and under the search bar click on members then fill out your information.

Local 1241
By David Bonds, Business Representative

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Continued from page 1

Siemens and APM twice each year to review projects occur, as does meeting with individual plants, touring prospective customers around the International Training Center in Las Vegas, and maintaining constant contact with customers.

“I have all the confidence in the world in this Council,” said VP Banes in his remarks during the meeting. “We have a great opportunity here. Our corporate partners look at us as part of the team and if we deliver the exceptional skills and productivity that our membership is capable of delivering, this Council will be a great success.”

He also used his remarks to remind delegates of the importance of stressing attitude and productivity to fellow members.

“From Texas or Florida, your members will get the training they need. Quickly.”

Donahou then reviewed Council operations since its formation last September.

The first four months were dominated by setting up the nuts and bolts of the Council. Donahou then began to explain the importance of training.

“It is important for our membership to know that the training facility is our conduit to creating jobs,” Maples said.

Donahou concluded the speaker lineup: “Your mission is to tell your members what this Council is all about. Our membership needs to be more informed than they’ve ever been more informed,” Donahou said.

The EST told delegates to expect a lot of accountability in finances and operations and their leadership.

“You need to know the nuts and bolts and be a guiding hand, and you should all demand accountability in the direction we’re going to increase the market share for our members. That’s the most important part - putting our members to work is what we’re here for. It’s what we do every day. Day in and day out.”

Donahou said the Council is averaging 1300 man hours (PER MONTH ???) since its formation last September:

Following up reports by Regional Directors Rick Hallock and Steve Cotthon (see their articles, pages 5 & 6), Florida Training Director Frank Gray gave an overview of the training report. Currently, the Council has nearly 850 apprentices. Journeyman upgrade hours in just the fourth quarter of 2010 reached 7,150.

EST Donahou also reviewed marketing efforts by Council staff since September. A web site, located at www.ssmrc4070.org is up and running. “The goal is to make this web site the one mode of communication for both members and contractors, especially for jobs and training.”

Donahou said standardization of training across the council is expected from his training staff. There will be no flexibility of trainers, so that specialized training is completed quickly. “Whether you’re from Texas or Florida, your members will get the training they need. Quickly.”

In April 2011, TVA officials announced plans to construct a new coal-fired unit at John Sevier Fossil Plant in East Tennessee, six units at Widows Creek Fossil Plant in northwestern Alabama and 10 units at Johnsville Fossil Plant in Middle Tennessee. The TVA will further reduce air emissions from its coal-fueled plants by installing controls, converting to biomass or retiring units by 2039. Any needed capacity will be replaced with low-emission and zero-emission electricity sources, including renewable energy, natural gas, nuclear, coal, and wind power and energy efficiency. TVA will replace retired coal-fired units with cleaner energy resources, such as nuclear and combined-cycle plants, and with increased energy efficiency.

The TVA’s coal-fired fleet consists of 11 plants with 59 generating units that have a nameplate capacity, designed by the manufacturer, of about 17,000 megawatts. Of the Authority’s 59 coal-fired units, 21 have advanced controls to reduce nitrogen oxides and 7 also have scrubbers to reduce sulfur dioxide.

Three realities are causing the TVA to carefully evaluate the future of its older coal-fired units. First, the coal-fired fleet is aging, and many of the older units will require extensive work to achieve the level of reliable performance that is needed from them. Second, regulations on air quality are becoming increasingly stringent. Third, TVA officials expect new regulations to be enforced within the next few years. Finally, over the next couple of years, the TVA will have new, cleaner generating capacity coming online from Watts Bar Nuclear Plant Unit 2 and the combined-cycle plant at John Sevier.

During a meeting at the TVA Bellefonte Nuclear Plant in Hollywood, Alabama last week it was stated that the TVA will keep going forward with the construction of nuclear units that have been mothballed for many years at the Bellefonte Nuclear Plant. TVA officials haven’t presented the plans for further construction to the NRC yet, but in preparing to identify the seismic and safety status of plant components and structure for all of its fleet of power plants. We look forward to Bellefonte’s refurbishment & completion in the very near future.

At present, both Bechtel Construction, and Day & Zimmerman are working at the TVA Watts Bar Nuclear Plant to complete Unit 2, which was also mothballed for many years. Watts Bar Unit 2 is projected to go online in 2013.

Outages in progress and/or to come include the TVA Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, Siemens just finished an outage that went very well according to TVA & Siemens, using approximately 73 Millwrights. At the TVA Sequoyah Nuclear Plant, Siemens is now modeling some of the crew from Watts Bar down to Sequoyah to do another outage for TVA. This job will be somewhat smaller in scope but still will employ approximately 40 Millwrights. We are looking forward to another spectacular outage.

The UBCC and the SSMRC have been working hard to build a good relationship with the Tennessee Valley Authority for the purposes of elevating the our members to be TVA’s first choice when it comes to work within the jurisdiction related to our crafts. Be ready - take all of the training that you can use now so when you are needed, you can answer the call.

Caption

“You’ve got the resources and the work opportunities in the area, but the key is to talk to your members and help them understand what you’re trying to achieve,” Banes said. “If we go out on that job site and we don’t produce, then it’s all for nill.”

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Business Representative Updates

Local 2232
By Mike Hines, Business Representative

New Opportunities of Employment

I originally heard of the Motiva project in 2006 when I was first brought on staff. It was supposed to double the Port Authority refinery capacity. We started a team effort to nail down the Motiva project for union brothers and sisters to have more job opportunities in the golden triangle area of east Texas. Some of the things we did at first were attend area city council meetings, county commissioner meetings, political meetings, industrial round table meetings, Sabine Building trades, and meet with any public official that might have any information to help us meet our goal.

THROUGH THIS HARD WORK and dedication we were able to gain several contractors on the bid list, even though the general contractor was double teamed and chose their open shop side to do the work. The job started in early 2008 and was put on hold and restarted several times due to money issues.

Now the job is starting to get to the commissarion part of the project. The owner's Motiva, Saudi Aramco, and Shell, have second thoughts on the choice to use an open shop for the installation of equipment. Encouraged, our team kept hammering them about how much more trained and professional we are.

We received our first sign we have a chance to get some of this work in September of 2010. We were contacted by Danny Davis of Motiva and he informed us that Local 2232 would be the commissioning contractor. We have been following up with both TBS and Motiva on the commissioning start date and we are being told sometime in June. This project will bring in about 150 new jobs for our members for about 8 months of 7-12’s with the possibility of a maintenance contract after the commissioning is complete. I would like to thank the team that devoted their time and efforts over the years to make this opportunity possible for both our members and contractor. They are: Bobby Aen, Scott Hutt, and James Rowland. Special thanks for help from EST Dennis Donahou, which made it clear to our team that any specialized training required for a job, or anything the council could do to support our efforts would be provided. That is something new we have lacked before, which is complete council support and understanding of our needs.

We started right away arranging the first meeting in November 2010 between Total Industrial Specialties Services owner Bill Warren and Motiva. We didn’t know it at the time, but what we did in the meeting the project manager and maintenance manager mentioned that they had all worked with Bill Warren before and basically stated they like his quality of work and TBS would be the commissioning contractor.

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I would also like to thank both Doug McCorm and Doug Baras for their vision to form this new Southern States Mid-South Regional Council. With their support and an understanding of this council, this type of story should not be a surprise but a norm as we accustomed, go after more and more work for our members.

Local 2111
By Paul French, Business Representative

Greetings from the North...North Florida that is. Since this is our very first newsletter, I would like to take this opportunity to give you a little history about Local 2111. We were chartered on November 10, 1950 and have serviced the North Florida, South Georgia region for the last 61 years. Our members are hardworking, loyal, and are well known for their expertise in the paper mill industry. They are mostly being requested for machine installations, some even as far away as Alaska. Without a doubt, our contractors are the BEST and most dedicated Union contractors around. I am very proud and protective of our members and contractors. It has been a very busy Fall! Spring outage season, which is really good news for us. The fact that we are busy means we are putting more people to work which means our membership is growing. If our membership is growing that means we are getting stronger. Good things are happening. You can help keep the momentum going by attending your monthly Union meetings. There you can learn about any upcoming work or information that will benefit you in the long run. Also, please remember to notify your Local Union when you have a change of address or phone number. It is very important to keep all of this information up to date. You may miss out on a good job if we do not have the correct information. I invite anyone to come visit our facility and enjoy our beautiful city of Jacksonville, FL. I believe you will see the same thing we already know.

After all, Jacksonville is where Florida begins.

Training Reports

Georgia, North Carolina & South Carolina
By Dickie Bone, Director of Education and Training

As directors and instructors, the primary purpose of our job is to increase the skills of our members and enable them to do their best work on the job. This should be our top priority. Our program considers training, skills and productivity to be the keys to the success of our members, our contractors and our union.

Welding is an integral part of millwright training. Over the last six months, we have had a standing call for welders at the Savannah River Site job. Georgia Power Company has estimated 300 millwrights will be needed at Plant Vogtle for upcoming work. Savannah River Site and Plant Vogtle are located in Augusta, Georgia.

The 3 MOST COMMON PROCESSES used at these sites are:

- SWMM-with 7018 electrode on 3/8” carbon plate with backing in the 26G-3G-4G position.
- GTAW with 309 filler rod on 3/8” carbon plate with an open butt in the 26G-3G-4G position.
- SWMM with 308L electrode on 3/8” carbon plate with backing in the 26G-3G-4G position.

A standing call for the Savannah River Site job will be on site. The plates will be tested by Ultrasonic or Radiography. All testing for the Plant Vogtle site will be at the training center in Augusta, Georgia. The CWI will be a Stone Webster employee. The test coupons will be side bent to check for faults.

We need everyone who has certification papers done by a contractor or have been certified at a training center to make sure that they have a copy on file at the training center. We will be conducting a 40-hour Advanced Welding class in Georgia every month. If you think you can pass, please come to one of these classes and test.

At the minimum, everyone needs the SWMM on 3/8”. If you have certification papers from one of the training centers or a contractor, you need listed in the system as the certified welder. I get inquiries regularly from owners and contractors about how many certified welders we have. We need to have the numbers of certified welders as high as we can get.

In the Georgia, North Carolina and South Carolina area, we are expecting numerous welding jobs in the future. It will be your effort on the job, your productivity, your pride, and your craftsmanship that will determine the success of our program. Through training, we continue to enable our members to develop the skills and productivity that will make them the best in the industry. This is our number one priority.

Mid-South Regional Council
By James Huley, Director

The Mid-South Training Department will be hosting the 2011 Annual UBC Southern Directors Apprentice Contest this year. The event will be held in Chattanooga, TN at the Tri-State Training Facility on October 14-15.

The CONTEST WILL CONSIST OF competitions in four UBC crafts that include General Carpenter, Millwright, Interior Systems Carpenter and Pile Driving. On Friday morning, Oct. 14, contestants will complete the written examination along with the optical portion of the contest. On Saturday, Oct. 15, contestants will compete in an eight-hour hands-on project. The contest will conclude on Saturday evening with an awards banquet held at the Trade Center Marriott in Downtown Chattanooga.

This year’s contest will have participants representing all six training departments in the Southern District (Florida encompasses 11 states). I welcome all UBC members and signatory contractors to attend the event to support these outstanding apprentices.

For more information you may reach Tracy Payne or myself at 423-892-5262. Hope to see you in October!

Locals 2111 and 1000
By Frank Gray, Training Director

The Florida Millwright Apprentice and Specialization Training Program operates on a full-time, day-time basis serving approximately 77 apprentices and providing upwards of 600 training hours quarterly for journeymen millwrights working in the state, year round. In 2010, the Florida Millwright Program produced a total of 13,905 contact hours of training for its members.

SEVERAL OF THE LARGEST millwright contractors, such as Siemens and General Electric/Atlantic Plant Maintenance now require up to 80 hours of special training before an individual reaches the job site, including the crossovers in Human Performance, 16-hour Safety, 32-hour Rigging, GE Gas Turbine, and Bolting Technology. This attention to a diversity of skills assures contractors that all of our returned millwrights have the necessary skills to positively contribute to the production and safety issues of the projects. It also verifies that the Florida Millwright Program meets those requirements through the cooperation of Service Agents, Training Department staff, and the Millwright membership.
IT DOESN'T TAKE MUCH TO disassemble a centrifugal pump. Most individuals with simple hand tools and limited instruction do it in about one hour. If a person takes it apart, there is a high probability that they can clean it and reassemble it, as well. That cleaned and reassembled pump is now ready for service, which is what the service center wants us to believe. After all, it is clean and with new parts, it must perfect and ready to go. We might as well do it their way.

In the situation above, service centers are nothing more than parts changers. It is quantity over quality. Speed is the name of the day. There is no order, everyone does it their own way. Lack of repetition causes tasks to get overlooked, corners are cut. There is no pride in the work, the employees offers little feedback on the cause of failure and seldom documents the steps taken during the repair process. It is certain that right now, as these paragraphs are read, there is a pump being repaired that has no chance of operating through its service life. And the person who is doing the work doesn't care, either. They have not been trained to care nor do they know how to make a pump function properly. In most cases, the repair process is done by guesswork. Lack of repetition causes tasks to get overlooked, corners are cut. There is no pride in the work, the employees offers little feedback on the cause of failure and seldom documents the steps taken during the repair process. It is certain that right now, as these paragraphs are read, there is a pump being repaired that has no chance of operating through its service life. And the person who is doing the work doesn’t care, either. They have not been trained to care nor do they know how to make a pump function properly. In most cases, the repair process is done by guesswork.

Training is the key. A properly trained vendor is a skilled craftsman. The result is a centrifugal pump that meets specifications and one that has the right Attitude, Skill, and Productivity. They demonstrate that they are up to the challenges associated with centrifugal pumps. The AFG Training Program has acquired an Ingersoll Rand two-cylinder reciprocating compressor. The AFG Investment Fund was contracted for the demolition and liquidation of the Evans Cooperage Barrels and Drums facility. This donation all came about because of a Union member that attended the monthly union local meeting two weeks before seeing this compressor in the middle of the demolition site.

He remembered hearing that the apprenticeship school was looking for training props, pumps, and small steam turbines, and especially a reciprocating compressor. As the spring outages are winding down, the Millwright Training Centers are preparing for summer winding down, the Millwright Training Centers. The New Orleans apprenticeship school was looking for apprentice to work on their reciprocating compressor. The AFG Investment Fund was contracted for the demolition and liquidation of the Evans Cooperage Barrels and Drums facility. This donation all came about because of a Union member that attended the monthly union local meeting two weeks before seeing this compressor in the middle of the demolition site.

He remembered hearing that the apprenticeship school was looking for training props, pumps, and small steam turbines, and especially a reciprocating compressor. As the spring outages are winding down, the Millwright Training Centers are preparing for summer.

The class begins with a brief introduction. The group is then break up into smaller groups composed of 8 individuals. The group is then break up into smaller groups composed of 8 individuals. The group is then break up into smaller groups composed of 8 individuals.

All of the above workshops are prerequisites for the GE Gas Turbine Qualification being held at the International Training Center in Las Vegas, SiemenS and APM are in the process of making the Turbine Qualification mandatory by this fall. The AFG training workshops were held at the International Training Center in Las Vegas, SiemenS and APM are in the process of making the Turbine Qualification mandatory by this fall. The AFG training workshops were held at the International Training Center in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The fall outage session will be here before you know it, so don’t wait! Call your local training center to schedule the workshops needed to stay well trained and employable.

• Human Performance
• 16-hour Millwright Safety
• UBC Rigging
• GE Gas Turbine Familiarization
• Bolting/HTCOR
• Machine Alignment
• Pump Repair Technician Level 1
• Other classes available

The MYTHWRIGHTS OF TODAY must prove themselves on each job site, through Attitude, Skill, and Productivity. They demonstrate that they are up to the challenges of today’s ever changing work environment. Millwrights install, repair, maintain and troubleshoot numerous types of machinery, from the automotive to the nuclear industry.

Here at the Arkansas/Oklahoma Apprenticeship Program, located in Russellville, AR, we are dedicated to making sure that you are ready to be a skilled millwright. Contact us for additional information or our schedule of classes at 479-967-4240 or SSMRC website at www.ssmrc4070.org.

The United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America.

The Carpenters International Training Facility in Las Vegas, Nevada.

The last steps involve cleaning, assembly, and paint. All parts are thoroughly cleaned, inspected, and measured. Tolerances are checked to ensure they meet the manufacturing specifications. As each part is assembled, it is measured and documented once again to ensure that the pump stays in tolerance as it is built. Parts that held critical clearances are adjusted as necessary.

The result is a centrifugal pump that is now ready for service, which is what the service center wants us to believe. The pump stays in tolerance as it is built. Parts that held critical clearances are adjusted as necessary.

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Executive Officers
Dennis Donahou  Executive Secretary-Treasurer
Dickie Bone  President
David Park  Vice President
Mike Heinz  Conductor
Mitchell Ford  Warden
Rick Halford  Executive Committee Member
Kevin Curley  Executive Committee Member
David Bonds  Executive Committee Member
Matt Olaire  Trustee
Steve Cothron, Sr.  Trustee
Mike Valentine  Trustee

Tell us your news ...
Do you have a photo or information you’d like to see in the newsletter? Send it to Council headquarters. Please note that information may be edited for style and length, due to space limitations. And, items are published at the sole discretion of the newsletter editor.

Help us get you on the job...
Upgrade your skills with skill advancement classes. Remember, the more you learn, the more you earn.

THIS GAVEL WAS DONATED to the new Southern States Millwright Regional Council by member Jimmie Doughten of Tennessee Local 1554.
Jimmie crafted the gavel by hand from Purpleheart wood. “On behalf of the members and staff of our Council, I’d like to thank Jimmie for this wonderful gift,” said Executive Secretary-Treasurer Dennis Donahou. “Jimmie’s thoughtfulness is symbolic of the dedication and positive attitude our members have - assets that fuels our efforts to provide excellent work for our contractors.”