

# WESTERN ROOFING EXPO HITS RENO

**“T**his IS the year of positive change for our industry!” That was Western States Roofing Contractors Association President Bill Baley’s message to attendees of this year’s WSRCA Roofing Expo, held at the Peppermill Hotel & Casino in Reno, NV, from June 9 – 12.

As it does each year, the convention kicked off on Sunday with golf and sporting clays tournaments. Registration fees from these events support the WSRCA Davis Memorial Foundation for youth education.

That was followed by two days of roofing seminars and the event’s highlight: the tradeshow, where nearly 100 vendors showcased the latest in roofing products, technology, equipment and education. It was the “positive change” we’ve all been waiting for. ■



Donald Bosnick with Bosnick Roofing, International President Kinsey Robinson, Arlene Lawson and Frank Lawson with The Lawson Roofing Co., Inc. share laughs at the Western Roofing Expo.



International President Kinsey Robinson, right, gets down to business with John Plescia, president of signatory contractor Star Roofing, Inc. out of Phoenix, AZ.



From left: Local 220, Orange County, CA, Business Manager Brent Beasley; International Representative Gabriel Perea; International Vice President/Local 31, Oakland, CA, Business Rep. Doug Ziegler; Bay Area Counties Roofing and Waterproofing Apprenticeship Program Director Jose Padilla; and Bay Area Counties Roofing and Waterproofing Training Director Dan Smith.



International President Kinsey Robinson, Steve Nash with Waterproofing Associates, International Vice President Doug Ziegler and Dennis Ryan with Waterproofing Associates discuss the roofing industry in California.

## Scholarships in the Roofing Community Raise Awareness of Roofing Industry While Helping Students

### SMRCA Announces 2013 Scholarship Winners

The June 2013 meeting at the Roofers Local 149 office in Detroit, MI, was a celebratory one.

Four college-bound students were awarded scholarship grants through a program sponsored by Commercial Roofing Contractors of Southeastern Michigan, the Southeastern Michi-

gan Roofing Contractors Association (SMRCA) and Roofers & Waterproofers Local 149.

The program annually awards college scholarships to dependents of

# Roofers Rush to the Rescue When Building Collapses

A four-story building that was being demolished in downtown Philadelphia collapsed on June 5, leaving six people dead and 13 wounded. Professional rescue crews were called in to start the excavation process. However, some of the first to arrive at the scene and help people were construction workers from nearby, including some members from Roofers Local 30, Philadelphia, PA.

According to the Washington Post, Patrick Glynn and Anthony Soli, both members of Local 30, were working on a roof on a building nearby. They heard a loud sound, like an explosion, and immediately rushed to the site of the collapse. They were able to help three people out of the rubble.

Patrick Glynn said he suspected the building was going to collapse. He had been watching the demolition process from his perch on the roof for a few weeks, and he questioned the workers' methods. He told a reporter that "for weeks they've been standing on the edge, knocking bricks off. You could see that it was ready to go at any time. I knew it was going to happen."

Unfortunately it did happen, and the result was deadly. But thanks to the assistance of Local 30 Roofers and other good Samaritans who came to the rescue, some victims were able to escape alive. ■



The fatal building collapse in Philadelphia.



2013 Roofers Local 149/Roofing Industry Promotion Fund Scholarship Grant winners pictured from left to right: Doug Stiff (Governor), Jordan Novelly, Lucero Toral, Olivia Kowalski, Jon Gagnon and Bob Peterson (Governor).

employees of member roofing contractors. This year's winners were Jon Gagnon, Ferndale, MI; Olivia Kowalski, Dearborn Heights, MI; Jordan Novelly, Clinton Township, MI; and Lucero Toral, Detroit, MI.

Applicants were asked to submit an essay to the Joint Union/Contractor Scholarship Committee describing "How Important Is the Roofing Industry?" Winners received \$1000 scholarships contributed by the SMRCA, Roofers Local 149 and the

contractor employer. The Governors of the Scholarship Committee, including Local 149 Business Manager Bob Peterson, presented the awards.

Initiated over 20 years ago, this program is an example of the SMRCA/Roofers Local 149 and SMRCA member contractors working to promote continued education and to encourage industry dependents to attend college.

## Commercial Roofers, Inc. Scholarship Promotes Understanding of Roofing Systems in Architecture

Commercial Roofers, Inc., located in Las Vegas, NV, recently awarded their annual scholarship to Alex Klenk, a 4th-year student at UNLV studying to become an architect.

Commercial Roofers, a Local 162 signatory contractor, established the scholarship program with UNLV in

1997, giving an annual scholarship of \$1,000 to a deserving Architectural Studies student annually for 10 years. In 2008 the scholarship program was renewed, with the amount increased to \$1,500 per year for the next 10 years. Commercial Roofers Inc. believes in giving back to the industry by providing this scholarship in conjunction with a classroom presentation that teaches the importance of proper and workable roof system designs to future architects.

"The whole reason for the program is to raise awareness of how important roofing systems are in the architecture, instead of just glossing over it," says Dennis Conway, principal of Commercial Roofers, Inc. ■



Alex Klenk receives a scholarship and plaque from Commercial Roofers owner Dennis Conway.