



Apprenticeship Corner

by Assistant to the International President Bob Krul

Apprenticeship Competition To Be Hosted By Local 149

Saturday June 9, 2007 is the scheduled date of the Second Annual Apprenticeship Competition to be held for local unions in the Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and North Central States District Councils. The event will be hosted by Local No. 149 and held at the Detroit Apprenticeship School, 10621 Capital, Oak Park, Michigan 48237. Any Local Union interested in participating in this competition or attending the event may contact Apprenticeship Coordinator Bob Drogosch at (248) 543-3847.

Following in the footsteps of the Northeast/Mid-States District Councils, Local 149 hopes to capitalize on the first competition held last year at Local 11's Apprenticeship Training facility in Indian head Park, Illinois.

These competitions give our apprentices the opportunity to show their skills in various phases of our industry and allow them to meet with their brothers and sisters from other local unions. While the competition is usually stiff and graded very closely, it is all meant to be conducted in an atmosphere of fun and camaraderie.

We wish Local 149 and their apprenticeship program all the best for success with this Apprenticeship Competition!



Foreman Training Status Report

Work on the Foreman Training Program continues as exercises and materials are being prepared. The materials are being developed as modules so they can be used separately or in combination. Each module contains several units, each addressing a different subject. For example, the Communications Skills Module contains units on listening skills, responding/speaking skills, non-verbal meaning, giving directions, cultural differences, and using hand signals.

Each unit involves one or more activities in which the trainees participate. They then reflect on their exercise and their broader experience to find the most important information they have learned.

There will be an Instructor's Manual and a Participant's Manual for each Module. The Instructor's Manual provides direction to conduct the exercises and discussions, together with text, background information and handouts/overheads. The Participant's Manual provides brief readings and a review of the key points of each unit.

Current planning places the Foreman Training Program as a 5-6 day training activity. Modules currently under construction are:

- Communication Skills
- Problem Solving and Decision making
- Providing Instruction at Work
- Project Planning and Management
- Basic Skills – Math, Measurement, Science
- Ensuring Safety

The International Union is currently reviewing candidates to be Instructors for this program. Once the Modules are completed, we hope to conduct a pilot training program with our Instructors in a major city. ■



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