Message from Chris Haslinger
Director of Training

As I write this, we have just concluded our 2015 Pipe Trades Training Conference. I want to thank all those who attended the conference and took advantage of all that we offered during our week together in San Diego. A lot of time, thought and effort goes into these conferences, as we endeavor to bring you the latest technology and information that affects teaching in our trades. I especially want to thank the entire Training Department staff for their hard work both in the months leading up to the conference and during the week as well.

Our goal, as always, is to make this conference as meaningful and useful as possible. We understand that your participation represents a big commitment on your part, as well as that of your Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (JATC).

We were fortunate this year to have General President Bill Hite and General Secretary-Treasurer Mark McManus with us for part of the conference. Their presence shows the UA’s commitment to training.

This year’s theme of “Exchanging Innovative Ideas and Training Resources” exemplifies our mission to bring you the latest in technology as well as the best in teaching, managing your training program and preparing your apprentices and journeymen for a successful career. We drew from our resources for developing the skills of their apprentices and journeypersons. By thus facilitating the training needs of the membership, we maximize their employability and prepare them for changes in the industry. We are committed to making training opportunities available across North America, allowing members to acquire new skills and remain competitive in the industry regardless of geography. In this way, we are determined to meet the needs of the piping industry and enhance employment opportunities for our members, while remaining fiscally responsible to the beneficiaries of the fund.
a wide range of UA and industry experts to create a program with a broad scope of subject matter.

Underlying much of our effort is the continuing need to increase apprenticeship and recruit the best and brightest applicants out there. In return, we must offer them the training they need in order to be successful—both as apprentices and as journeyworkers. We know this is not an easy task, and most of the responsibility for this critical effort falls on our training coordinators/directors and our instructors. I know that every one of you is up to this challenge.

Many of our training directors are new to the job, so we have created a new program specifically for them. It will be held in Annapolis, MD, March 24-26. This meeting will provide an opportunity for these new training directors and coordinators to receive information that will help them be more effective, and they will have a chance to ask questions in an informal environment that will be conducive to the open exchange of thoughts and ideas. The meeting will include a tour of the UA’s headquarters, as well as a visit to the bookstore. I urge all new training directors/coordinators to participate in this program.

This year we are also holding the Office Professional Seminar August 3-5 in Ann Arbor, prior to the Instructor Training Program (ITP). The program is set for August 8-14, and registration for both of these programs will open in May 2015. I urge you to register early.

We will be presenting more ITP information in detail very soon, including our grant initiative and other important elements of the program, such as details on new classes being offered for the first time.

UA Week in Ann Arbor is a truly special time for all of us, with lots of hard work and plenty of opportunities for camaraderie and fellowship. We look forward to seeing you there.

---

**The UA Training App**

The UA’s Training App was designed to meet the needs of the membership by providing a resource to the items listed below.

- About the UA, an overview of the UA and what we are
- Apprentice Hours; giving JATC’s and apprentices a platform to submit on-the-job training hours *(coming soon)*
- Training Program Resources
  - Instructor Training Program
    - Class schedule
    - Student course schedule
    - Campus maps
    - On site assistance
    - Event photos
- Regional Training Catalog
- Provides a list of the year’s regional training classes offered to UA instructors, with locations and dates/times.
- eResource Training Catalog
- A one-stop resource guide for all of the e-Resources which are available to UA instructors, members and the general public for UA recruitment efforts
- Recruitment
- Link to UA recruitment videos
- Veterans UA VIP site
- Jobs brochure
- Executive Summary for recruitment
- UA Training News

The App can be downloaded by visiting your app store and searching for “UA Training.” The app is supported on all Apple, Android, and Windows devices.

---

**National Conference on Worker Safety and Health**

**June 2 – 4, 2015**

**Maritime Institute**

**Baltimore, MD**

Whether you are a seasoned veteran or a new activist, this conference is for you! Don’t miss this chance to plug into the year’s most critical — and collaborative — event for health and safety advocates. It’s not just a conference - It’s a movement!

For more info and to register visit:

[www.coshnetwork.org/2015conference](http://www.coshnetwork.org/2015conference)

Sponsored by the National Council for Occupational Safety and Health
Tip-Tig Mobile Welding Training Trailer

By Randy Gandy, UA Training Specialist

Under the leadership and direction of General President Hite, the UA continues to be an industry trailblazer by offering the very best training available. The UA’s Training Department accomplishes this by routinely evaluating and updating its training courses in order to incorporate the very latest technologies and equipment in training UA instructors and welders.

In an effort to adequately train our members, the United Association Training Department continues to look at emerging welding technologies that are being utilized by today’s contractors. Having a strong working relationship with vendors like Liburdi, AMI, Lincoln and Miller makes this objective possible.

In addition to our vendors, the United Association Training Department also acquires information on the latest technologies by attending Fabtec and Power Generation shows. The UA strives to improve the quality of education and training offered to its members by providing resources and specialized training classes, which utilize the most up-to-date equipment. This allows us to stay ahead of the curve with industry needs. For example, Advanced GTAW (course #356) focuses on how to teach advanced techniques of gas tungsten arc welding and process variable for a variety of materials. Over the past few years, the UA has invested in equipment and specialized training classes to remain on the leading edge of a newly developed welding process known as “Tip-Tig.” Tip-Tig is course #357. In 2014, a new UA Tip-Tig welding trailer was designed to transport this equipment to the local union hosting the regional training. The United Association’s Tip-Tig mobile welding training trailer is fully operational with five welding booths and a preparation station. This trailer is just one of the fleet of over 30 trailers the United Association utilizes in providing its local unions with the ability to provide training anywhere in the United States and Canada. The mobile training units have become an important tool in the training of UA members. The first thing you notice about the trailer is its size. The trailer is 53 feet long and 10 feet high. It is the largest trailer of its kind on the road today. The trailer was completely designed and built by UA craftsmen.

Methods in Teaching Advanced Gas Metal Arc Welding (Course #359) is specifically designed for local union welding instructors and covers the use of advanced gas metal arc welding equipment and techniques. The course focuses on “how to teach” advanced techniques of gas metal arc welding (GMAW) and process variables for a variety of materials.

These courses will prove to be advantageous as heavy industrial work becomes more prevalent.

During ITP week or regional training programs, the instructor’s course curriculums are comprised of cross-training on this type of equipment in each course. The instructors attending the courses will become familiar with a variety of equipment, which will allow them to bring their expertise back to their home locals. The training that is provided to the UA’s instructors is why the United Association craftsmen and women are second to none in the pipe fitting and welding industry.

- Hot wire process improves wire receptivity into the weld
- Highest quality with the lowest weld heat
- Low chrome/manganese weld fumes

GMAW Controlled Waveform

Miller’s FieldPro System
GPRO-UA Certificate Update

By Phil Campbell, UA Training Specialist

The Green Professional Building Skills-UA Certificate Program (GPRO-UA) and Instructor Course #231, Methods in Teaching the Green Professional Building Skills Training—GPRO-UA, were introduced last year at the 2014 Instructor Training Program. At that time, the GPRO-UA Instructor Resource Library (IRL) had not been completed. We are proud to announce that the GPRO-UA IRL has been completed and features an expanded array of teaching and study tools for the GPRO-UA instructor and student. All instruction and study material for GPRO-UA courses should be obtained from this site.

The GPRO-UA IRL provides a separate icon for each GPRO-UA manual, Fundamentals of Building Green, Green Plumbing Systems, and Green Mechanical Systems. Included in each separate IRL are the following:

- An Instructional guide explaining the use of the IRL
- Instructional plans that contain four sections: Resources, Instructional Objectives, Review Tools, and Evaluation
- PowerPoint® presentations for each chapter
- Interactive illustrations covering all the images in the manual
- Illustrated glossary covering all definitions, with links to figures that apply to the definitions
- Exams, which are chapter practice exams. There is also a tab for the exam Answer Keys
- UA Curriculum Material, which is a special area for important material not contained in the manuals
- Quick Quizzes, which are review questions for each chapter
- Flash Cards covering all the definitions in the manual

- Forms and Documents that contain written material specific to the manual
- Media that contains any video or animations relevant to the manual
- Updates/Comments/Student Resource Library (SRL) Access, which is an area to detail changes that are made to the IRL, a comment area for questions concerning the manual or IRL, and links to student study resources
- Online Resources containing links to online relevant material

The GPRO-UA Certificate Program and the certification web page had not been finalized. We are pleased to announce that the GPRO-UA certificate page on UANET.ORG has been completed. The page includes links to the GPRO-UA Quality Systems Manual, GPRO-UA Guidelines, the Green Trailer’s Schedule, Request for the Certificate Exam, and the GPRO-UA IRL. All questions pertaining to the certificate process can be answered by accessing these documents. Also, UA Locals should only request instructor material and exams from this site and not from Urban Green.

The exams will be Blackboard-based proctored exams. The GPRO-UA instructor or local training coordinator is responsible for scheduling the exam and proctor. The request for exam application must be filled out with course, instructor, and local information plus each student’s name and membership number, as well as which exams the student will be taking. This application must be submitted at least two weeks before the date of the exam. A confirmation email will be sent confirming the time and date of the exam, along with each student’s user name and password.

The GPRO-UA Certificate exam fee will be $85.00 per student per testing event. If a student takes any of the three exams (Fundamentals, Plumbing, and Mechanical) in one test session the test fee will be $85.00. If the student takes any of the exams in separate test sessions, the exam fee will be $85.00 per test session. If the student must retake a failed exam, the exam fee will be $50.00.

Medical Gas Certification Update

We have received many questions at the Training Department concerning the Medical Gas Certification. Answers to some of these questions are as follows:

- The certification exam will not be based on the 2015 NFPA 99 this year and may not be until 2017. We will notify everyone well in advance of any change to the exam.
- The 2005 Medical Gas Certification exam will not be offered after April 1.
- All instructor material for the Medical Gas Certification can be found on the Medical Gas IRL at www.uauiversity.org
- If you need to request a UA University account, the application for an account is located at the top of the UAU login page.
- The Medical Gas IRL has recently been updated. Look at the Updates/Comments page for a listing of what has been updated.

It has been noticed that some of our instructors are still having a problem with low scores on the Medical Gas exam. We have found that some of those results are due to instructors not using the IRL material. We have asked several instructors, who are using the IRL and having success, what they are doing to achieve those results. The following are a few of their suggestions:

- Teach the class as if it were a plumbing or mechanical code class.
• Have students find the answers to the pretest and chapter exams in the code and write down the section numbers as homework assignments.
• Concentrate study on Chapter 3 Definitions and Chapter 5 Gas and Vacuum Systems.
• Use the new Magic Numbers document in the UA Curriculum Material tab to be familiar with critical numbers used in the code.
• Have the students use the Flash Cards section at home to study definitions.

For Further information for the GPRO-UA Certificate Program or Medical Gas Certification, contact Training Specialist Philip Campbell at philipc@uanet.org.

The past year was a busy one, as usual, for the Training Department. Here are a few numbers to give you a quick picture of the year:

• Total number of grants given out: 807
• Total number of instructors taking courses: 2,660
• Total number of books sold by the UA bookstore: 78,194
• Total number of UA welding coupons purchased: 69,678
• Total number of x-rays done at UA test labs: 7,000

Fire sprinklers are a proven way to protect lives and property against fire. They are the only proactive form of fire protection that can contain and often extinguish fires before they spread, providing occupants with the time they need to get out, and first responders the time they need to safely enter the structure.

The UA’s new fire protection trailer, which made its debut at this year’s Pipe Trades Training Conference, meets our ongoing demand to train our members not only in brick and mortar schools, but in remote locations too. The fire protection trailer houses 12 mobile training modules that represent various types of fire protection systems, such as dry valve and pre-action systems, to name just a few, as well as a fire pump.

The mobile modules provide a resource for our instructors to conduct hands-on training on practically any type of wet fire protection system in use today. The fire protection trailer has been designed to complement training at any one of the 300-plus UA training centers or wherever that training may be needed throughout North America.

The UA’s Training Department is committed to training its members with the latest technology available in fire protection.
**NCCCO Signal Person Practical Examiner Accreditation**

*By Phillip Martin, Administrator of UA Certification Programs*

In today’s competitive environment, all industrial facilities have to consider the critical issue of rigging and lifting operations as a key factor in the continued productivity of their businesses. Under the direction of General President Hite, the UA began working together with the National Commission for the Certification of Crane Operators (NCCCO) to institute a training and certification program of signal persons for our membership. Since the enactment of the new federal regulation on the qualification of crane signal persons in November of 2010, the UA has trained over 4,800 of our members in accordance with the federal regulation, who in-turn, have obtained the NCCCO Crane Signal Person Certification.

A key component of the UA’s Signal Person Training and Certification Program is the accreditation of UA Practical Examiners by the NCCCO. NCCCO-accredited Practical Examiners are individuals who are authorized by the NCCCO to administer the required practical examination of signal persons at the local union level. The NCCCO Practical Examiner Accreditation is valid for a five-year period.

In order to be an NCCCO-accredited Practical Examiner, individuals must first be certified by the NCCCO as a signal person; attend a Practical Examiner Accreditation Workshop and pass both the written and practical examinations for Practical Examiners offered during the accreditation workshop. Following satisfactory completion of the Practical Examiner Accreditation Workshop, individuals will receive a Certificate of Attendance and a notification letter from the NCCCO on their status as a Probationary Examiner.

Probationary Examiners are required to be monitored and/or audited during their first practical exam that they administer. In other words, following accreditation, they may not test until an NCCCO representative is present to audit their performance. This must be completed within six months of attending the accreditation workshop. Probationary Examiners then begin a 12-month probationary period after the completion of a satisfactory audit. If a satisfactory audit is not obtained, a second audit by the NCCCO is required.

Accredited Practical Examiners must administer at least one practical exam in every 12-month period to maintain accreditation. If Examiners are unable to conduct an exam within a 12-month period, an extension of up to 90 days may be granted, provided that the Examiner has an exam scheduled within that 90-day time period. If Examiners are unable to schedule an exam within the extension period, they must attend a Refresher Workshop to maintain their accreditation. If Examiners do not administer at least one practical examination in a 24-month period, they must attend an entire two- or three-day Practical Examiner Accreditation Workshop and are considered probationary and subject to the requirements of Probationary Examiners. Prior to the end of the five-year accreditation period, Examiners will be notified of the need to re-accredit. To re-accredit, individuals must maintain their credentials as an NCCCO-Certified Signal Person and must attend a one-day Practical Examiner Accreditation Refresher Workshop.

The NCCCO periodically emails information bulletins to all accredited Practical Examiners containing clarifications and updated policies. Practical Examiners must have a direct email address to receive the aforementioned email notifications from the NCCCO (this may not be a shared address). To remain in good standing, Practical Examiners are required to confirm, via a link at the bottom of the bulletins, that they have received, read, and agree to abide by the information contained therein.

Additional information on Practical Examiner Accreditation can be found on the UA Website at [https://uanet.org/cert-crane.asp](https://uanet.org/cert-crane.asp) and also the NCCCO Website at [http://www.nccco.org/nccco/practical-examiner-program/accreditation-requirements](http://www.nccco.org/nccco/practical-examiner-program/accreditation-requirements).
We want to thank all the vendors who took part in the Expo associated with our 2015 Pipe Trades Training Conference. The equipment and information presented by these vendors, as well as their enthusiasm, added enormously to the success of the program.

Arc Machines Inc.
Anvil
Appion
American Technical Publishers
Aquatherm
Autodesk
ASSE
Bradford White
CGM Computer Consulting
Contractors Choice
Copper Development
Coyne First Aid
E.H.Wachs
HVAC Excellence
Fluke
Get the Point
Hampden
INCOM
IAPMO
Integrated Software
Interactive Learning
Kelly Companies
Liburdi
Lincoln
Mathey Dearman
McElroy
Milwaukee
Mosaic
NITC
Pioneer Pipe
Reliable Automatic Sprinkler
RLS
Spartan Tool
Summit Filtration
Technical Sales International
Tip Tig
Trimble
Tri Tool
Union Sportsmen’s Alliance
Urban Green Council
Victaulic
Viega
Walhonde
Weiler

Important Dates for 2015
March 24-26.......................................... Meeting for New Training Directors
August 3-5.................................................... Office Professional Seminar
August 8-14.............. Instructor Training Program and Apprentice Contest

iptcentral.org
Your one-stop shop for USA-made, union-made promotional products.

IPT Online Store
IPT Central
Your one-stop shop for USA-made, union-made promotional products.

iptcentral.org
Proceeds go toward developing UA training manuals

A Big Thanks!
test your knowledge

**ACROSS**
4. The mechanical working of metals using impact blows.
8. How thick the wall is for any size of pipe.
9. A recession of the flame into the mixing chamber of the torch.
12. A chemical that produces a cooling effect while expanding or vaporizing.
13. A cover on the valve body.
14. The process where the structure, properties or appearance of plastics deteriorates.
17. The width of the cut produced during a cutting process.
18. A sudden cooling of heated metal with oil, water, or compressed air.
20. Attempts to regulate a measurement as some preselected valve.

**DOWN**
1. Heating unit in an electric water heater.
2. A fitting that connects pipes of different sizes.
3. A decorative metal flange or trim shield beneath a faucet handle.
5. A flat device usually made of fiber or rubber used to provide a watertight seal between joints.
6. A fitting with three openings used to create branch lines.
7. A gas that has been heated to the point where it will conduct electricity.
10. A condition where a substance changes from a solid to a gas without becoming a liquid.
11. The plastic flow of pipe within a system.
15. Refers to the temperature surrounding a body or unit under test.
16. A channel or tube by which air is distributed from the air handler to the room.
19. The load required causing a specified percentage of elongation.

**Training Department**
**Office Professionals**
- **Administrative Assistants**
  - Debbie Walburn
  - Suzanne Ellis
- **Administrative Assistant (VIP)**
  - Nicole Reyes
- **Publishing**
  - Noreen Moucheron
- **Certification Department**
  - **Carrie King,** Office Manager
  - Kristyn Ivey
  - Angie Moltz
  - Toni Perry
- **Registrar’s Office**
  - **Cathy Merkel,** Registrar
  - Tracey O’Leary
  - Kiva Straser
- **Recruitment**
  - Kiva Straser
- **Curriculum Coordinator**
  - Rachel Shuman
- **ITF Grants/Accounting**
  - Jocelyn Dorsey, Office Manager
  - Helen Holmboe
  - Tammie Parezo
  - Pat Vallandingham
- **IPT/JTC Bookstore**
  - **Dianna Lash,** Office Manager
  - Peggy Jarrett
  - Darlene Lee
  - Jay Meadows
  - David Parmenter