Message from Chris Haslinger
Director of Training

We’ve been working hard preparing for the upcoming 2015 Office Professional Seminar (August 3-4) and the Instructor Training Program (August 8-14) in Ann Arbor, MI. Registration is planned to begin on May 4, and I urge you all to register early. The Office Professional Seminar, which was last offered in 2013, gives the UA’s Office Professionals an opportunity to take classes that range from the operation of local union offices to apprenticeship training centers. There are a lot of new professionals in these positions, and I strongly encourage you all to give them this valuable opportunity to learn something new and to enhance their skills. We all know that the continuing education of our Office Professionals is critical to the successful operation of our local union offices and training centers. The feedback we received on this program in 2013 was extremely positive and appreciative so let’s promote this program across the board.

For our Training Directors/Coordinators and Trustees of Joint Apprenticeship Training Programs who will be attending the Instructor Training Program, we are proud to once again offer new and exciting classes. This year, we have dedicated ourselves to exploring new technologies and equipment that are making their way...
onto jobsites and are being promoted for jobsites of the future. Some of the classes include: Utilizing Jobsite Technology, Your Role in Lean Construction, and Robotic Layout, to name just a few. These are very exciting times, and the Training Department is gearing up to fully prepare and support our training professionals for the training environment of the future. We are excited about some of these developments, and we feel that these areas will be a motivating factor in recruiting individuals into our programs. We have numerous new Training Directors/Coordinators and Trustees who will find the Instructor Training Program (ITP) week an occasion to network with their peers, while taking classes that will enhance their knowledge and provide the support they need to do their jobs well.

There will be plenty of time for camaraderie and fellowship during the Ann Arbor block party. This year the Ann Arbor Visitor & Convention Bureau will feature live entertainment with “Tool Shed,” by Milwaukee Tools. This band performed at this year’s Pipe Trades Training Conference, and we have asked them for an encore! The Ann Arbor Visitor & Convention Bureau is also holding the annual 5K and Pub Crawl, along with the 2015 “The Big Flush” toilet bowl races, so assemble a team and get your entries in. Industry Day allows us to showcase what we do, and how we do it to our contractor and owner partners, and we are looking forward to this event again. The 2015 International Apprentice Contest will be ongoing beginning Saturday, August 8. Take a moment and watch our future journeypersons show off their skills in this highly competitive contest.

Once again, we are offering grants to assist our local training centers in sending students. Last year, our grant program was widely successful, and we are anticipating that it will be the same this year. Our mission is to always equip our training professionals with the resources and information that will help them develop the skills of their apprentices and journeypersons to the very highest level. Our end-goal is to have the most sought after workforce in the industry. By ensuring that we are offering our members the very best, applicable, forward-thinking apprenticeship training and journeyperson continuing education programs—our mission will be a success.

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**AWS CWI Recertification**

*By Phil Martin, Administrator of UA Certification Programs*

The UA’s training program for the AWS CWI certification has been a great success and a benefit for many of our members. To date, we have over 1,600 UA members who hold the CWI certification. A significant number of CWIs are getting to the point of having to undergo their nine-year recertification. With this in mind, it would be a good time to review how the AWS QC-1 recertification process works.

The nine-year CWI recertification process can be met by a CWI in three different ways. The first option is to take and pass the AWS CWI Part B (practical hands-on) exam. If you decide to recertify by taking the Part B hands-on test, it must be taken no earlier than six months prior to your CWI expiration date, because if you fail the hands-on exam, you do not have a lot of time to attempt a retake before you lose your CWI certification. If that happens, you have to take all three parts of the CWI exam over.

Most CWIs dread the thought of taking the Part B exam over again, so now we have two other options. The second option is to attend 80 hours of continuing educational courses, known as PDHs (Professional Development Hours). Any of the UA or Ohio State training courses related to welding, inspection, or nondestructive testing may be used as PDHs. A minimum of eighty (80) PDHs must be earned (training received or instruction delivered) during the nine-year certification period and twenty (20) of those 80 PDHs must be earned in the final three-year period. Credit for a particular course may only be granted once in a nine-year period. (Example: A single 40-hour course taught any number of times can only be used to fulfill 40 hours of the 80 hours required for recertification). Instructors who want to substitute teaching hours for the required PDHs must submit documentation of the hours of training performed. Such documentation must include a complete syllabus of subjects taught, a copy of the certificates of attendance or completion issued, the number of students attending, the dates of the training provided, and documentation that the training was a formal offering and not personal coaching, tutoring, or individual instruction delivered to meet job requirements.

The third option is recertification by passing a two-hour endorsement exam. You can apply for this option up to six months prior to your expiration date. Passing one of these endorsement exams meets the requirements for recertification. An important note to remember is that endorsements cannot be taken to the Codebook to which your initial CWI certification was attained. Typical endorsements are as follows: AWS D1.1 Structural Steel; API 1104 Pipeline; Structural Drawing Reading; ASME Section IX, B31.1, B31.3; ASME Section VIII, Div. 1 and Section IX; and AWS Certified Radiographic Interpreter.

The nine-year recertification requirement happens much faster than you think, so it’s best to plan ahead.
Workers Memorial Day Observance

From Laurie Shadrick, Health and Safety National Coordinator

Workers Memorial Day is April 28, 2015. This is the 26th year we have reserved a day to remember our Brothers and Sisters who were injured or killed on the job. This year’s theme is “Speak Out for Safe Jobs. Protect Workers Now!” You can find Workers Memorial Day art for stickers, posters and other materials by clicking on the link below that has been provided by the AFL-CIO.

http://www.aflcio.org/Issues/Job-Safety/WorkersMemorialDay

To enter your own event so that others may also participate, click on Create An Event: Workers Memorial Day 2015 or go to http://go.aflcio.org/workers-memorial and click on “Click to Host.”

Also, if you are planning an event, please send me pictures and a small article so that I can put it in the Safety and Health newsletter.

If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me at Lauries@uanet.org.

National Safety STAND-DOWN

TO PREVENT FALLS IN CONSTRUCTION

MAY 4–15, 2015

Stop Falls Stand-Down

- Plan a toolbox talk or other safety activity
- Take a break to talk about how to prevent falls
- Provide training for all workers

For more information:
www.osha.gov/StopFallsStandDown
#StandDown4Safety l (800) 321-OSHA (6742)
You can find these by just going to your App Store. Simply put in the search terms as follows: UA Training, International Training Fund, or UA Interactive Curriculum. Any one of those will take you to our new Apps.

Once there, you will find a variety of information. On the UA Training App, we have an informational section about the UA, as well as a recruitment section that includes videos, a link to the Veterans in Piping® program and more. The Training Program Resources section includes information about UA University, the Instructor Training Program, the Regional Training Catalog, the eResource Catalog and more.

Download the App today—and let your fingers do the exploring!

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**UA Online Resources**

**By Rod Jara, ITF Training Specialist**

The United Association’s Information Technology (IT) and Training Departments provide our members and our Local Union Training Center Coordinators and Instructors with various online resources. The UA resources include both public and private websites. Below is an explanation of some of the various purposes and differences of the UA online resources. The following list will provide a brief explanation.

**http://www.ua.org**

The UA’s public website is available to the public and anyone with Internet access can view it. The site contains numerous pages of information regarding the UA as an organization, description of departments, the UA’s history, FAQ’s, and links and contact information.

**https://uanet.org**

This is the UA Bookstore’s online site used for ordering UA textbooks and training materials. This is a restricted site, which needs a UA-assigned user name and password. The UA bookstore is housed on a third-party, commercial e-commerce merchant’s site.

**http://www.uaUniversity.org**

This site contains electronic resources for UA Instructors to use in their training programs. New UA textbooks no longer include a CD. UA University is a “gateway” to the IRL (Instructor Resource Library). All new UA textbooks’ digital resources are available at this location. You need to have a username and password to access this site. The information on this site is restricted to UA Training Coordinators and UA Instructors, and no public access is provided for the IRL. You may learn more about all our electronic resources by downloading the eResource Manual from the login page (no login required, link below).


To access the UA University (UAU) site, complete the Access Request form available at the login page. If you currently have access to UAU-IRL, make sure that your UA member card number is correct. Once you log into UAU, on the upper right side, click Manage Account and check your information. If your card number is not correct, email Rod Jara (rodj@uanet.org) and request your card number be corrected. If you do not have access to UA University-IRL, request an account using the form on the login page.
https://blackboard.wccnet.edu
This site is the home of WCC-UA Blackboard Course Management System. It is a secure site that needs a user name and password. This system is for online teaching of a particular course, or it can also be used to supplement an existing apprenticeship program. Several Local Unions use this system to conduct classes remotely in the event of foul weather school closings, for make-up classes, for online testing, either as a supplement element to an existing course, or as a stand-alone full online course.

Blackboard is an LMS (Learning Management System) enterprise software package for online education. Blackboard is “course driven,” which means you have to be enrolled in a course in order to use Blackboard. Having a Blackboard username and password, and NOT being enrolled in a course, does not provide access to Learning and Teaching resources.

Enrollment in any course can be in the form of a particular “Role” as in “Student Role” or “Instructor Role” and several other roles. Depending on the “Role” assigned, your Blackboard Course access differs.

As the UA Training Department continues to invest in technologies that will be available online, all Local Union Training Centers should have an “Online/Blackboard” Instructor to assist and coach all other Instructors at the local. Just as most Local Training Centers have a dedicated “Shop” Instructor, the time has come to have a dedicated “Online/Blackboard” Instructor.

The Internet sites listed above reside (are physically located) on different network systems. You must have unique usernames and passwords to access these sites. In the case of UAU-IRL and Blackboard, we’ve attempted to use the same username. Older users may have access with their original usernames, which is OK as long as you can login. But remember that having access to one site does not provide access to all of them. They are separate, different systems.

Blackboard Online Course Management System
The ITF has created “Template Course Shells” sites on Blackboard for you to request to use at your local. To learn more about Blackboard and the Online Course Management System, download the e-Resource Training Catalog.

An interactive guide to all resources available for Training

e-RESOURCES TRAINING GUIDE

The ITF has created “Template Course Shells” sites on Blackboard for you to request to use at your local. To learn more about Blackboard and the Online Course Management System, download the e-Resource Training Catalog.
UA Members Can Be Proud of Their Work with the VIP Program

by Mike Hazard, ITF Training Specialist

As the men and women of our nation’s military transition from their military service back into the civilian workforce, they face a world of uncertainty that for many is just simply insurmountable. Long back-to-back deployments overseas have become a norm for many service members serving our country today. The effects of these deployments on these service members and their families are often underestimated. A combination of these effects, along with the lack of transferrable skills in the civilian workforce, can create enormous insecurity for service members transitioning out of the military today. As a result, veterans face historically high unemployment rates.

When UA General President Bill Hite decided that he wanted to do something about the high unemployment rate of our nation’s military, the UA’s Veterans in Piping® (VIP®) program commenced in Lacey, WA, in 2008, with the Washington State National Guard at Camp Murray. Later, it expanded to active-duty transitioning service members nationwide, bridging the gap between their transition from military service directly into skilled-trade employment.

Currently, the UA VIP program has expanded to eight military installations throughout the United States, serving all branches of the Armed Forces. This expansion would not be possible without the collective efforts of the United Association, International Training Fund, UA local unions, UA signatory contractors and our industry partners, including Lincoln Electric, Milwaukee Tools, and Weiler Incorporated.

Since 2008, the UA’s program has trained members—that’s 771 veterans who have transitioned back into the civilian workforce with guaranteed employment. In 2015, the UA’s VIP Program is projected to train an additional 300 service members. At the end of this year, every UA member should be proud to say that they have helped over 1,000 veterans transition back into the civilian world successfully and have made a positive impact on each of these service members’ lives. Oftentimes success stories from our UA VIP graduates may not reach all of the individuals working behind the scenes to ensure the overall success of the program, so I would like to share a few that we have received over the past year that prove the UA VIP program is changing lives.

Specialist William Northrop served in the Army for four years as a 12N Heavy Equipment Operator with the 555 Engineer Brigade and is a Purple Heart recipient. Specialist Northrop graduated from the first VIP Welding course at Joint Base Lewis-McChord on May 23, 2013. Upon graduation, he relocated his family to Boston, MA, and affiliated with Local 537. “I can honestly say I love my job, it is right where I needed to be! The VIP program was phenomenal, and I honestly couldn’t thank everyone enough. The opportunities it’s presented me—I could never have expected everything to follow through the way that they have.” -William Northrop

UA VIP graduate Ian Drury from Camp Pendleton Class 13 says, “I have been working non-stop since I got out of the Marines. I am working 40-hours a week. I am working out of Local 137 in Springfield, IL, as a third-year apprentice. I enjoy what I do very much!” -Ian Drury

Ultimately, the UA VIP program has kept its promise of 100 percent guaranteed job placement and continues to do so because it is the right thing to do for our nation’s heroes.

Recently, we lost one of our VIP graduates from Camp Lejeune, Boone Cole III, a Marine, an exceptional young man who is greatly loved and missed. Boone graduated from the UA VIP program at Camp Lejeune in July 2014 from the inaugural welding class. Boone affiliated with Local 248 in Ashland, KY, in an effort to relocate closer to his family and pursue a career with the United Association. Boone’s story has opened our eyes to the many struggles faced by today’s veterans. In response to Boone’s tragedy, the UA Training Department has created a Veterans in Apprentice-
Hard Hatted Women of Local 290

By Laurie Shadrick, Health and Safety National Coordinator

I recently attended a photo shoot for a documentary film in the making about women who are breaking down gender barriers in the construction trades that will be called Hard Hatted Woman. The film is the brainchild of producer/director Lorien Barlow who traveled to Plumbers and Steamfitters Local 290 in Portland, OR, to film one of our own—Local 290 member Zory Hill, who has been chosen as one of the women featured in the film. Sister Hill began her plumbing apprenticeship in 1989 and her husband, Russ Hill, is also a Local 290 member. Local 290 has 96 women who are members, and while Ms. Barlow was on-site to film Sister Hill, some of the women of Local 290, along with Training Director Clare Shropshire and Assistant Training Coordinator Marci Wichman, were given the opportunity to come together for a photo opportunity. Within the group shot, there were three sets of sisters and one niece, women who were third- and fourth-generation UA members, and several retirees.

The documentary, Hard Hatted Woman, follows five tradeswomen through their daily experiences on the job. It gives an intimate portrayal of life for women in the construction industry and the challenges associated with working in this field. Some of the jobs are very physically demanding, and one of the featured tradeswoman said that she learned to do things a little bit differently when she was faced with physical challenges. All of the women in the film talk about what attracted them to their crafts and talk about what has been the motivating factor to stay and carry on. In all of the instances, the women featured said they loved their jobs!

The film was funded very quickly through a GoFundMe campaign. Ms. Barlow has also invested $15,000 of her own money to complete the project. They will be shooting through this summer and then will go into the editing phase and hope to have the project finished later this year. Ms. Barlow and her camera assistant, Jenny McCormack, will be shooting at this year’s Women Building CA and the Nation conference. She hopes to show the finished product at the conference in the future. In the meantime, once it is completed, it will be shown at festivals around the country in hopes of finding a distributor.

Congratulations, and thank you Local 290 and Sister Hill, for helping to promote and retain women in the trades. For those of you who aren’t familiar with the project, you can watch a trailer and learn more about it here: https://www.kickstarter.com/projects/1774810154/hard-hatted-woman.

You can also follow it on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/HardHattedWoman.
test your knowledge

PUZZLE SOLUTION (February)

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

DOWN
1. An air-gas mixture.
2. A fitting that joins two different types of pipes together.
3. The wiring, plumbing and heating/cooling systems in a building.
4. GTAW welding process.
5. A multi-port valve commonly used on gauges or switches.
6. Abbreviation for a pipe that is threaded on the inside.

TRAINING DEPARTMENT
OFFICE PROFESSIONALS

Administrative Assistants
Debbie Walburn
Susan Ellis

Administrative Assistant (VIP)
Nicole Reyes

Publishing
Noreen Moucheron

Certification Department
Carrie King, Office Manager
Kristyn Ivey
Angie Sterling
Toni Perry

Registrar’s Office
Cathy Merkel, Registrar
Tracey O’Leary
Kiva Straser

Recruitment
Kiva Straser

Curriculum Coordinator
Rachel Shuman

ITF Grants/Accounting
Jocelyn Crowder, Office Manager
Helen Holmboe
Tammie Parezo
Pat Vallandingham

IPTJTC Bookstore
Dianne Lash, Office Manager
Peggy Jarrett
Darlene Lee
Jay Meadows
David Parmeter