



Research & Education

by John Barnhard
Director of Research & Education

Train-the-Trainer Program Kicks Off in Portland, OR



After a five- year hiatus, the International Union and the Roofers Research and Education Trust sponsored a Train-the-Trainer Program for new local union instructors in Portland, OR, September 22 – 23, 2011. The program was scheduled to coincide with the meeting of the Northwest and Western States District Councils and held at the Oregon and SW Washington Roofers Training Center.

The Train-the-Trainer program, initially rolled out back in 1998, is based on the same successful format—roofers teaching roofers—but with a few new wrinkles. There's more interaction and more opportunity for student instructors over the two-day program to hone their teaching skills.

Taught by experienced roofing instructors, the program is designed to help local union apprentice instructors become better organized, better prepared and more effective teachers. The two-day program addresses the conditions for successful learning, the four steps of instruction and the importance of lesson plans. A lot of time is spent on creating effective lesson plans. Lesson planning guarantees that instructors will be more effective and better prepared because it forces instructors to organize what they teach,

helps ensure they have all the material and equipment they need for the class, and helps them decide on the best teaching method to employ.

The program also delves into course outlines and reviews basic teaching techniques and how to effectively utilize them to promote active learning.

The lead instructors for the Portland class were Chicagoland Roofers JATC Coordinator Marty Headtke and Local 2 St. Louis JATC Coordinator Dan Knight. Oregon and SW Roofers JATC Coordinator Clint Mapes and Bay Area Counties Roofing Training Director Dan Smith were also involved and provided significant input throughout the program.

The highly interactive program required student instructors to develop and deliver their lesson plans first in groups and then individually. Many of the student instructors used tools and equipment at the training center to deliver hands-on lessons on activities such as properly lighting the kettle, heat welding and shingling.

Attendees were highly motivated and enthusiastic. Lead instructors felt this was one of the best train-the-trainer programs yet, in particular because the student instructors demonstrated such marked improvement in their teaching skills over the two-day program. Much of the student teaching was filmed and instructors were able to see their development over the two days, as well as identify areas in their teaching methodology and delivery that could be further strengthened.

The next two-day program is tentatively scheduled for March 8 – 9, 2012, at the Chicagoland Roofers Training Center.



Instructors and trainees wrap up a successful two-day Train-the-Trainer course in Portland.



Midwest Roofing Apprenticeship Competition Boasts Good Numbers

Hosted by Roofers Local 11 and the Chicagoland Roofers JATC, the Midwest Apprentice Competition held in Indian Head Park, IL, at the Chicagoland Roofers and Waterproofers Training Center on October 8, 2011, was well attended and highly competitive.

The Indiana State Council of Roofers, Michigan District Council, Illinois District Council and the North Central States District Council participated in the event and provided important financial and manpower support.

The zealous first-, second- and third/fourth-year apprentices faced off in events that tested a variety of skills, from the recognition of safety hazards, proper ladder setup and felt application for a shingle roof for first years, to flashing curbs with EPDM and torching modified bitumen membranes for second years. Heat welding PVC laps and set-

ting rolls for a 4-ply BUR roof off a gutter edge were some of the challenges for third- and fourth-year apprentices. Experienced apprentices also tackled Roofing Math—determining square feet, roofing squares and material needed for various roof configurations.

Safety is always a concern at these events, and competitors are required to wear the appropriate personal protective equipment.

Sincere thanks go out to Local 11 and the Chicagoland JATC for hosting the event and to all of the participating district councils and affiliated local unions for their assistance in helping make the competition hugely successful.

Our congratulations go to the winners in each of the three divisions. But we also want to distinguish all of the participating apprentices for their determination and enthusiasm that was on display throughout the competition.

The winners in each division include:

FIRST YEAR

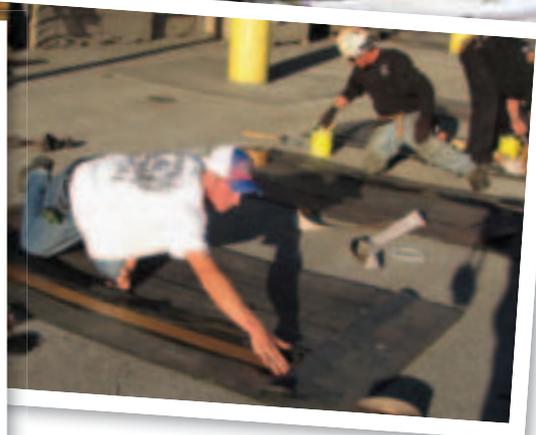
- 1st Place** – Jason Schaefer
Local 11, Chicago, IL
- 2nd Place** – Clint Straw
Local 182, Cedar Rapids, IA
- 3rd Place** – Edward Coldwater
Local 11, Chicago, IL

SECOND YEAR

- 1st Place** – Lucas Brown
Local 149, Detroit, MI
- 2nd Place** – Walter Woolsey
Local 96, Minneapolis, MN
- 3rd Place** – Derick Bowlds, II
Local 149, Detroit, MI

THIRD/FOURTH YEAR

- 1st Place** – Heath Hydo
Local 149, Detroit, MI
- 2nd Place** – Kyle Smith
Local 182, Cedar Rapids, IA
- 3rd Place** – Abel Mondragon
Local 11, Chicago, IL



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