

LINKS

Your link to lifelong learning



Steelworkers joined at JobLink in March to read and discuss the recent publication, **The Heat**. Some students have tried their hand at writing their own work experiences. Following is a review of both the book and the class by Jeff Manes.

"I read it from cover to cover in a day – and I'm a slow reader. The preface, forward and introduction are good reads, too! Every steelworker should pick up a copy. If you don't pick it up for yourself, pick it up for your kids, grandkids or a retiree. It's honestly written by the likes of us. Mill workers are streetwise; had the book been filled with fluff, we would have surely scrapped **The Heat**. Here it is, the ultimate marathon – thirty years in the mill – from picking out that first pair of metatarsals to the last day when the set of greens remain on the hook of the locker never to be worn again.... and the gritty, sometimes humorous, oft time heartbreaking turns in between. Our lives on the printed page."

The Heat – Discussion

"Our group met three times. The first week we got to know

each other, were given a copy of the **Heat** and had the privilege of hearing Jennifer Jones read her wonderful story from the book as well as Bill Corrigan on his first day on the job.

We discussed the book a third at a time and some lively conversations they could be. Sometimes we'd end up swapping a few of our own similar experiences. It was very enjoyable – something different."

The Heat – Our Turn

"This part lasted four weeks. These classes are for those interested in penning their own stories or poems. Marcia Taylor seems to have a calming influence on those who might feel just a bit apprehensive putting their thoughts on paper. She takes her job seriously"

Look for another Heat class coming this August!

Let the Chips Fall Where They May....

by Brian Swann - Instructor

Wood chips that is! The Cabinetmaking - Furniture making Program is up and running at the Bernard Kleiman JobLink Learning Center. In less than 3 years the curriculum has gone from merely offering one open lab class per week to a comprehensive program consisting of 4 classes per week. These courses offer learning in all areas and all levels of furniture making.

Students new to cabinetmaking begin with The Fundamentals of Woodworking 1 & 2. In these 8-week courses students are introduced to the basic skills needed to work safely and efficiently in a workshop environment. Measurement, tool selection and implementation are the focus along with simple technique. Students design and build a small table with the help of the instructor and

walk away with an outstanding piece of furniture and the necessary skills to proceed to the next level of the craft after only two courses.

Upon completion of Fundamentals of Woodworking 1 & 2, students are then eligible to enroll in the intermediate and advanced courses. These classes present further techniques concentrating on the finer skills of furnituremaking. Students build projects such as tables, chests and grandfather clocks. They will also learn advanced techniques



Students Art Delgado & David Dienes look on as Fred Curiel puts the final touches on his furniture project.

such as mortise-and-tenon joiner and raised panel doors.

A new class has been added to round out the program. Offered this fall for the first time is "The Business of Furnituremaking." In this 8-week course students will learn solid business practices that

(Continued on page 5)



In cooperation with The School City of Hammond



Subsidiary of ISPAT INTERNATIONAL N.V.



Institute for Career Development



Local 1010



From Diane's Desk

Now more than ever...

Take inventory of your future. ☒ Become acquainted with all the various programs JobLink has to offer. ☒ See the big picture-think about where you see yourself tomorrow. ☒ Make a plan that leads to a goal. ☒ Take the course you want today. JobLink has certain programs available; there is no guarantee that things will be the same a few years from now. ☒ Embrace new technology. ☒ Don't be afraid of computers. ☒ Begin with a Keyboarding or an Intro to Computers class. There is no testing, no way to fail, no need for fear. There is so much that you will be able to do with some computer knowledge. ☒ Talk to me about courses that you don't see on our flyers. ☒ Look around and find someone who needs a class JobLink offers. Bring him/her to the program. ☒ If you have never been here, come by and get a tour of the building. ☒ Look at the JobLink flyers on bulletin boards. Look at flyers sent home. ☒ Fill out the JobLink survey this summer. This survey will tell what you want to change or what we should continue.

Have the courage to dare to dream and let education be the path to that dream!

...Viewpoints...

Steve Wagner
Local 1010 Representative

The American Steel Crisis is tragically upon us! As this article is being written, we have **seventeen** steel companies filing for **bankruptcy**. We may lose another huge chunk or possibly the entire domestic steel industry. Believe me, this is not doom and gloom propaganda...this is a crisis of epidemic proportion! We all must do our part to convince our government to take immediate, decisive action to **Stand Up for Steel** and save our industry!

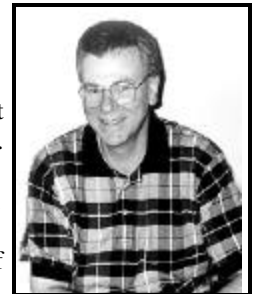
In addition to our legislative efforts, we need to take a hard look at our education opportunities and USE THEM. All of us, including myself, need to prepare ourselves for the uncertainty of the FUTURE. The United Steelworkers of America is the best union in the world, and I assure you that we will not lose this industry without utilizing every resource that we have to save it. **But nothing is for sure**, except that no matter what happens to our industry, including Ispat Inland Inc. - **OUR LIVES WILL GO ON!**

Our Career Development Program has many objectives, but none is more important than to prepare steelworkers for long, secure, and meaningful retirements and alternative careers in the event that we are subject to dislocation. Over the last ten plus years, over four thousand local 1010 members have utilized JobLink. With the uncertainty of the future and the many opportunities available to us through JobLink, definitely **"NOW MORE THAN EVER WE SHOULD USE OUR NEGOTIATED EDUCATIONAL BENEFITS"**.



J. Larry Rodimel
ISPAT Inland Representative

Now...more than ever...difficult times require new ways of coping. As the entire economy slows down, and business conditions in the steel industry worsen, companies have to find new ways of lowering the cost of making their products and services, raising the level of quality, and charging less than their competitors. This can mean making changes that affect employees. For example, in what work is done, how it's done, and who does it. **Now...more than ever...**employees who have acquired new knowledge and gained new skills are more versatile and able to adapt to changes better than those who haven't. **Now...more than ever...**ask yourself whether you've taken advantage of what JobLink can do for you - and if not, why not?



Making the Grade!

Congratulations to...
JobLink's recent certification graduates:

CompTIA A+ ®
Donell Bonds
Leo Moreno
George Powell



***Links** is a student publication of the Bernard Kleiman JobLink Learning Center
Student Staff: Jennifer Drew, Diane Smith, Joe Woessner and Tom Zmigrocki.
Contributing Editors: Jon Bisnett and Marcia Taylor*

JobLink Subcommittee:
Diane Lentz, Larry Rodimel, Steve Wagner

Electrical Safety Should Come As “No Shock”

by Tim Spanos - Electrical Instructor

With summer soon approaching, more and more people will be using power tools and equipment. The importance of having a GFCI (Ground Fault Circuit Interrupter) cannot be overemphasized. A GFCI is that funny looking outlet that has a test and reset button usually found in bathrooms. It is designed to shut off power immediately if it senses that electricity is traveling where it shouldn't...like through someone's body. Many people have lost their lives where a \$7.00 GFCI could have prevented such a tragedy.

GFCI outlets are required in areas where a person may be grounded. (***Grounded: making a connection with the earth.***)

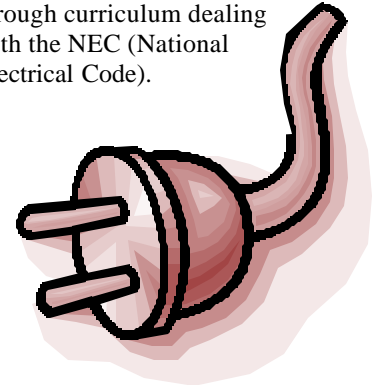
Electricity seeks the easiest path to ground. If it has to travel through someone's body to get there, it will travel almost as fast as the speed of light. A small nick in a cord or a faulty appliance can energize equipment and possibly electrocute anyone coming in contact with it. GFCIs save lives by instantly shutting off this stray electricity.

GFCI outlet installation is required in the following locations:

- ① Extension Cords
- ① Bathrooms
- ① Unfinished Basements
- ① Sink Counter Tops
- ① Outdoor Outlets
- ① Crawl Spaces
- ① Pool & Spa Motors

After the GFCI is installed, it should be tested monthly to insure the internal mechanism is functioning.

A full range of electrical classes are available at JobLink. Courses begin with Basic Wiring and advance through curriculum dealing with the NEC (National Electrical Code).



Woodcarving Class Honors Outgoing USWA President

by Diane Lentz

What better way to recognize George Becker, retired USWA President, than to have Local 1010 members carve a commemorative statue for him in their Woodcarving Class.

Past President George Becker and past General Counsel Bernard Kleiman have been the cornerstones of career development and have worked to improve career development throughout the country. All

those involved in this effort feel a great deal of gratitude for their vision and commitment.

The statue, a replica of a steelworker, was carved during the Woodcarving course taught by Steve Stefanovich. Steve stated that his students wanted...“the statue to reflect 30 years of service and experience at the mill.” It was 19” tall and carved of basswood. The base was made of walnut. It took approximately 35 hours to carve and represented the work of thirteen students; Michael Anderson, Guadalupe Barboza, Fortino Cavazos, Jesse Flores, Paul Hohos, Layne Hooper, Randy Iuthi, Fernando Melchor, Sergio Mendoza, Enrique Morquecho, Filemon Navarro, Alfred Rodriguez and Grady Smith.



Al Rodriguez, Instructor Steve Stephanovich, Paul Hohos Fritz Melchor and Tino Cavazos pose with the statue created by Joblink students.



“An American Steelworker”
To a Great American Steelworker President
George Becker
April 2001
Carved by JobLink Students
USWA Local 1010

The students even surprised themselves with the impressive appearance of the finished piece.

Students build deck at Lake County Association for the Retarded

The Lake County Association for the Retarded (LCAR) is looking forward to using the deck and ramp that Local 1010 members built as part of their JobLink deck building class. The LCAR building is located at 2650 W. 35th Ave. in Gary. The association serves the mentally challenged citizens of Lake County by providing a broad range of services.

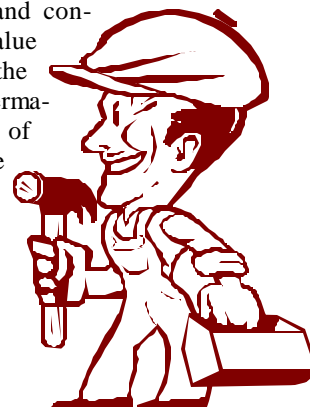


From left Juan Guajardo, Ron Gluth, Sam Rodriguez, Merrill Clark and instructor Shawn Myers, measure and cut handrails for the LCAR deck.

Instructor Shawn Myers of Myers Construction designed the 16' by 20' deck with ramp and benches. As with other community projects, JobLink provides the instructor and students. The non-profit agency provides materials and class space. This is part of the JobLink philosophy of making learning meaningful by centering it in a real-life application.

The participating students learned not only about deck design, adherence to building codes and construction skills, but also learned the value of providing a community service to the less fortunate. LCAR, in turn, has a permanent structure that will give them years of use and provide compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act*.

(*See article Links Vol. 5 #3)



Visit JobLink on the web:

www.joblink2000.org

Staff News

Who's Doing What at JobLink?

by Joe Woessner

JobLink would like to welcome the latest addition to its staff, Louise Lipman. Since November of 2000 her secretarial duties include registering students, processing invoices, and whatever else is needed. Louise was born in Cedar Lake and now lives in Hammond, where she is President of the Board at Haven House Women's Shelter.

After years of working in the retail business, Louise has this to say about working at JobLink: "It is very interesting to learn so many new things." Her hobbies include golfing and reading.



Since attending Purdue Calumet for ten years, Louise has earned an Associate's Degree in Sociology and a Bachelor's Degree in Industrial Psychology. Very impressive, Louise!

So stop in and say hi to Louise, and while you're there sign up for a class.

The Class of 2001

This list represents the students who have notified JobLink that they are receiving a degree this spring. We also extend our congratulations to anyone else who is graduating but has not made us aware of their accomplishment.

Calumet College

BS in Organization Management

James Biesen
Edwin Gabriel
Dorine Godinez
Louis Mazza
Rafael Velez

Ronald Demack
Jon Giusto
Patricia Humphrey
Gilbert McDaniel

Ivy Tech

Ernie Barrientez
Associate Applied Science Hospitality Administration
Joseph Godoy
Associate Applied Science HVAC

Indiana University NW

Michael Florey
BS Labor Studies with Distinction
Jeffery Hartill
BS General Studies with High Distinction
Michael Olszanski-retiree
BS General Studies with Highest Distinction

Personal Computing: *The Need For Speed!*

by Tom Zmigrocki

Ask anyone to describe what makes a good computer and the first thing everyone talks about is its speed! We all know that faster is better! Every ad we see implies that we won't be happy until we have the biggest, fastest, most powerful computer made. Anything less than a state of the art machine and you won't be able to fully experience or enjoy the new multimedia world of computing.




Systems of 1.2 to 1.5 GHz are now available and 2 GHz models will be out by the end of the year. For the first time in the home computing market, CPU speeds are exceeding software needs. The average computer owner can feel that his machine is inadequate or that it is no longer fast enough to take advantage of all the things that modern computing has to offer. This is a major misconception about computers and CPU speeds. Increased speed makes computing easier and faster but it isn't necessary to get full enjoyment out of your system.

A computer with a 400 or 500 MHz CPU, 64 to 128 MB of RAM, a 2 to 4 GB hard drive, a 24X CD-ROM, a 56K modem and Microsoft Windows 98 is more than adequate to handle the average user's needs. Productivity and how-to software, multimedia reference suites, educational

and self-help programs can all be used efficiently. A small decrease in CPU speed doesn't hinder productivity or personal enjoyment.

The new Pentium 4® systems are incredibly powerful but their high cost can offset their desirability. If you feel that you need a little more power, then a more cost efficient answer would be to upgrade some of your systems components. Adding more RAM or upgrading to a 600 or 800 MHz CPU can give your system a boost. A new video card and monitor can greatly improve multimedia output. Quality speakers will enhance audio performance. A new photo quality printer can greatly improve the look of all your printed material. Although a 56K modem is as fast as you can get for an analog phone line, consider switching to cable or DSL if it is available in your area.

If you are unsure of how to go about upgrading your system, then you are a prime candidate for a JobLink computer course. Consider the following:

-  **Assemble a PC**
-  **Build Your Own PC**
-  **PC Upgrade and Repair**

...Chips...

(Continued from page 1)

will prepare them to enter the market as either a full-time cabinet-maker or as a part-time craftsman selling fine furniture by commission.

Instructor Brian Swann presents the entire Cabinetmaking - Furnituremaking Program. Brian has worked in the cabinetmaking business for 16 years and has owned and operated his own business for 10 years. He brings this experience to each class to teach and assist students in all areas of learning.



Anthony Davis and Bobby Robinson talk the "plane" facts about JobLink's newly expanded Cabinetmaking class.

All classes are held at JobLink's cabinet shop facilities, located in the JobLink expansion building. This large shop is well equipped with all the power tools and hand tools necessary to produce quality cabinets and furniture.

Stop in and see the fine workmanship by the students at JobLink and sign up for a class so you, too, can gain the benefits that JobLink has to offer.





Joblink Policy



Change of address...

Please notify Ispat Inland's personnel office as Joblink gets their mailing labels from Ispat Inland. Too often correspondence is returned because of this oversight.

If you are planning to take a **restricted personal development** course in January 2002, you must complete your more **substantive course** in the **fall of 2001**. You must take a class from one of the following categories to be eligible for your restricted personal development course:

-  Computer
-  Pre-technical
-  Skill refresher
-  Non-restricted personal development

If you need information call Joblink
399-8136.

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JobLink Friends

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Ken Baker	[Plant 1 Galv.]
Chris Balzer	[Plt. 4 Maint.]
Chuck Canty	[MHS]
Susan Castillo	[4BOF]
Jesse Flores	[Plt. 4 Maint.]
Mike Florey	[Field Services.]
Brian Graska	[MMD]
Bob Guevara	[Plt. 1 Galv.]
Julian Gonzalez	[MHS]
Javier Guerrero	[Fab + Reclaim]
Jennifer Jones	[Utilities-Power]
Kenny Jones	[Shop Services]
Charlie Kestner	[Shop Services]
Randy Lea	[2 Cold Strip]
Herman Loyd	[Int Log\Oper Yd]
Jesse Martinez	[2A\21" Mill]
Roy Moss	[Shop Services]
Mike Nelson	[4BOF]
George Powell	[12" Bar Mill]
Gail Richardson	[3 Cold Strip]
Bill Robinson	[Process Auto]
Phillip Rodriguez	[3 Cold Strip]
Wayne Shinkle	[2A\21" Mill]
John Shultz	[Maint.]
Bob Smiley	[MHS]
Ed Soltys	[3 Cold Strip]
Gene Sufana	[MMD]
John Sumichrast	[76" Hot Strip]
Joe Zaragoza	[PA 2 BOF Caster]
Tom Zmigrocki	[Shop Services]

Learning to Learn

with Marcia L. Taylor

PASS THAT TEST!

If you need to take a test any time soon, it means you're soon putting yourself on the line.

No one likes to take tests, but the fact of the matter is, they're here to stay. If you're going to get that step up on the job, get certification, or into college, plan on being tested.

Just the word "test" can get your heart beating faster and make you trip over your words.

If you suffer from test anxiety, there is hope!

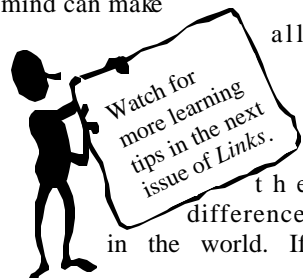
Good preparation is your best defense against test jitters. So if you have kept up with your class, take



the test with confidence. (but don't cram!) If you are taking a standardized test such as a test to get into college or

to get a job, find out what is expected of you. There are many study guides. And of course, we help you prepare for Ispat Inland tests here at JobLink.

Feel good about yourself. Going into a test with a positive frame of mind can make



all

the difference in the world. If

you are angry about having to take a test, your performance may well be affected. So brainwash yourself. Stop those nasty, negative internal messages in their tracks!

Get help. If you think you suffer from test anxiety, come in to talk to Marcia or Jill at JobLink. We can't help, if you don't ask for it.

NOW TAKE THIS TEST

- Test anxiety** is: a) myth.
b) manageable or avoidable
c) only a problem for school kids
- Cramming** is a) not recommended
b) one way to avoid the jitters
c) the most commonly used strategy
- Emotions** have nothing to do with test performance.
True or False
- Preparation** is the best solution for test anxiety.
True or False
- JobLink** is always here to help you.
True or False

Answers: 1. b; 2. c; 3. False; 4. True; 5. Of course!