

LINKS

Your Link to Lifelong Learning

Vol.8 No.2

Student Publication of the Bernard Kleiman JobLink Learning Center

Dec., 2003

WE ASKED AND YOU HELPED

by Marcia Taylor, Instructor

Forty of JobLink's faithful showed up one fine October morning to help spruce up our center.

Our first Volunteer Day, October 18, was a great success; more was accomplished than we had planned due to the hard work that all of the volunteers put in throughout the day.

Their unselfish efforts resulted in the entire parking lot being weed-whacked, two large classrooms and bathrooms were painted, computers were cleaned, and lighting replaced. The garden area

in front of our large building was weeded and new plants were planted. But the biggest job by far was the one we will all appreciate when the winds and snows of the winter are with us, our

dilapidated entrance way was redesigned and a new one built by our carpentry-savvy friends. Our deepest appreciation goes out to all who participated! **THANK YOU!**



The Volunteer Day Crew. October 18, 2003

THE STEELWORKER FURNITURE SHOW

by Brian Swann, Instructor

Local 1010 members who have been taking the Cabinetmaking/Furniture making courses at JobLink recently had an opportunity to exhibit their work at a special exhibit titled "Steelworkers-The Furniture Show" at the Indiana University, Gallery Northwest. I curated the program working with Diane Lentz, JobLink Coordinator and Ann Fritz, museum director. According to Fritz, over 350 people attended the exhibit during its run. Visitors were impressed with the quality and workmanship of the pieces.

The Furniture Show became a reality when Local 1010 members participating in the JobLink drywall class, drywalled the gallery. As a thank you to JobLink, Ann Fritz provided the gallery, invitations, and a reception for the Furniture

Exhibit which was held on Friday evening, Oct. 6th. This event was well attended and gave students an opportunity to discuss their work with visitors.

Over forty different pieces of furniture were displayed. These represented many different furniture types and a variety of wood species. Some of the fine pieces included a small jewelry box made of zebra wood, a solid cherry grandfather clock, a chess table made from oak and cherry, and a machinist's tool box made from maple,



cherry, and birds-eye maple. All of the pieces displayed were of fine furniture quality and showed each individual's determination, dedication, and creativity.

Thanks to all who participated and helped to make the show such a great success. The following Local 1010 JobLink participants had pieces exhibited at the show: Ruth Aleman, Ramon Zacarias, Mark Smock, Steven Babick, Gilbert Mendoza, Barbara and George Tuscan, Arthur Delgado, Francisca and Jose Castellanos, Walter Olenik, Hilario Gonzalez, Earline Powell, Joe Magura, James Marshall, Gary Busick, Ron Hlad, Thomas Evans, Bobby Robinson, Pat Matuga, Manuel Garcia, Linda Golden, John Woods, Terry Klekot, Arthur Martinez, Tom Hurd, Elizabeth Palacio, Delman Williams Jr., Craig Quigg and Samuel Rodriguez.



In cooperation with The School City of Hammond



ISPAT INLAND INC.

Subsidiary of ISPAT INTERNATIONAL N.



Institute for Career Development



Local 1010



From Diane's Desk

Diane Lentz
JobLink Coordinator

Getting the Word Out

I would like to thank all the Local 1010 members who took the time to complete and return the 2003 JobLink survey. I would also like to thank the Friends of JobLink who distributed and returned surveys for tabulation. It was very interesting to note that you get your information about JobLink from (listed in the order of highest response): **Catalogs** sent to your home, **flyers on bulletin boards**, **co workers**, **Friends of JobLink** and the **webpage**. Knowing this information, helps me realize that in the future...

We need to get as much information into the **registration catalog** as possible. Also, if you do not receive your three catalogs per year, please contact JobLink to make sure that your address information is correct. Let the catalog help you plan for your yearly computer courses, as we are *now* trying to give you information about at least two upcoming computer registrations.

Because **flyers** on bulletin boards play an important role in telling you about JobLink, please call me at 399-8134 and let me know if your department does not have flyers posted.

Co-workers. You are somebody's co-worker. Please talk up the courses you are taking and share your enthusiasm. If you know about a course that one of your co-workers might enjoy, get the word out. You do have influence.

Friends of JobLink. There are approximately 23 Friends. If you work in an area that does not have a Friend of JobLink assigned and you are a JobLink participant who would like to become a Friend of JobLink and help get the word out, please contact me.

Do not forget our **webpage**. Use it. Descriptions, outlines, dates, they're all there for you at www.joblink2000.org. Lastly, we are adding something new in 2004. I have a list of **email addresses** that I will use periodically to let you know about new courses and openings in courses. If you would like to be kept up-to-date, please make sure that we have your

(Continued on page 3)

...Viewpoints...

Steve Wagner
Local 1010 Representative

First, I would like to thank everyone who participated in the 2003 JobLink Survey. According to the majority of respondents, Joblink seems to be on track with the overall types of customized courses that we have been offering. However, I am a little disappointed with the number of new hires' responses being so low. Your opinions are as important as the four thousand members who are not new hires. We realize that long after we are gone...the future of steelmaking at Ispat Inland, Inc. is dependent on all of your skills and those of the future new hires ...needed for tomorrow's steel mills. Please do not hesitate to share your views on classes that will help you in your job and your life. It's never too late to request a class. If you have a class that you would like to see taught on-site, go to JobLink and put that class in the interested book. In addition, find other members who



(Continued on page 4)

Joe Medellin
Management Representative

To those new hires who responded to the JobLink survey (total of 33 out of 500, or 7%) - thank you. This survey was sent to obtain your feedback on services, interests, and courses. Due to the limited number of responses, only a few observations are noted below:

- 1). The Tuition Assistance program is important to most.
- 2). Most have an interest in courses leading to a certification.
- 3). Half are interested in understanding more about steelmaking, the history of steelworkers, and the financial aspects of the steel industry.

A similar survey was sent to an additional 1250 employees, with 245 responding, or 20%, a much more meaningful survey sample. Observations of value are noted below:



(Continued on page 5)

Links is a student publication of the Bernard Kleiman JobLink Learning Center
Student Editor: Tom Zmigrocki Assistant Editor: Joe Woessner Contributing Editor: Marcia L. Taylor
JobLink Subcommittee: Diane Lentz, Joe Medellin, Steve Wagner

**Did you notice
our new look?**

LINKS

Your Link to Lifelong Learning

A special thanks to our student editor
Tom Zmigrocki for designing our
new look.

MY TURN: PAT MATUGA



JobLink is a great place to learn really profitable things that you can use throughout your lifetime. You're never too old to learn something new. Nobody knows everything. At JobLink, there's something for everyone.

I have been taking classes there since 1996 when the 67" Hot Strip Mill closed down. Being laid off, I had a lot of free time on my hands. I took classes together with some of the people I had worked with. A few of us went everyday including on Saturdays.

I'm proud to say that our class built the gazebo and the deck in front of JobLink with Nate, the carpentry instructor at that time. We learned how to replace windows, do siding, roofing, all kinds of do-it-yourself projects. By taking these classes, I have met a lot of nice people from all over the mill, also wonderful staff and teachers.

Just a tip: Whenever you have to bid on a lot of the jobs in the mill, you have to take a test. If you stop by to see Jill, she can go over the test with you. That way you'll have an idea on what to expect before you take the test. I have passed every test I've taken because it was easier.

In Marcia's classes, I've learned to write stories like the one in The Heat, and I've taken Calligraphy and have brushed up on my math.

Taking classes with Mike Daley, I've earned three certifications for one, two-stroke engine repair and hydraulics. That was one of my greatest accomplishments. I'm the only woman that has taken classes with Mike and has passed the certification tests. Machinery is very fascinating to me and the more you learn, the more you can repair and service your own mowers and snowblowers, or even start your own business. You don't realize that just a

simple thing as replacing your paddles on your snow-blower, how much better it will be able to throw snow. If you didn't know better, you might throw out a good snow-blower thinking it's old and worn out.

In Tim Spanos' class I learned how to bend conduit and install light fixtures, switches and all about electrical wiring. In the Major Appliance Class with Roland, I learned which appliances to buy and which are the easiest to repair. You would be surprised that there are not that many parts to your appliances. Once you troubleshoot, you can get parts from his store and save yourself a lot of money.

Then there's Brian Swann and his furniture making classes. He shows you how to use the tools and you can really make beautiful furniture. You get a chance to work with all kinds of beautiful woods. You will be able to design and make one-of-a-kind pieces in any dimension you need. I made a beautiful hall table in mahogany that was on display at the furniture show at IUN in October. Now I find myself admiring and checking details on store-bought furniture and think, "Boy, I have something beautiful and stronger than this." Your furniture will last a lifetime.

I have taken over thirty classes. Opportunity is there; anything your heart desires or is of interest to you is there. All you have to do is give up three hours a week to learn something new. The teachers are real professionals.

(Continued from page 2) Diane Lentz
email address. If you do not receive an email from me by June 1, email your address to me at dmlent@inland.com. I'll add you to the list.

Again, thank you for letting us know what works, and thank you *even more* for being part of the solution. Have a safe and happy holiday, and we'll see you in January.

Visit JobLink on the web:
www.joblink2000.org

Kudos! Dorine Godinez, Pat Humphrey and Kim Riley teamed together to create the 2003 Window Box Contest Winner.

Thanks to all who planted flowers for our deck, helping to make our little corner of the world a prettier place.



The Harassment Video: It's All About Respect

by Debra Murrell, 4 BOF

In the latter part of May this year, Marcia Taylor sent out a call to people who like to write. Those interested got into a project to produce a training video on workplace harassment. First we saw a video displaying different types of harassment and we were trained about what constitutes harassment. A number of subjects are involved: race, religion, age, color, ethnic and, of course, sexual harassment.

We were then presented with the challenge of writing and acting in the video. The scenarios had to be realistic, and we did our best trying to depict the problems that exist here in the mill. The company and the union decided that the workers would be the best actors to present the scenarios we wrote. Who better than those who have lived it? Plus all of the scenarios were shot in various departments in the mill.

Ispat Inland is now starting training sessions regarding harassment. All steelworkers should soon go through that training - and you'll be able to see the video at that time. We hope that everyone at Ispat Inland will get something out of these sessions.



A scene from the video "It's All About Respect"

(Continued from page 2) Steve Wagner

want the same course. Once there are five names on an interested list, JobLink can begin the process of organizing the class. Again, I would like to extend my sincere appreciation to the **Friends of Joblink** who put forth a special effort to assist 1010 members in getting their surveys completed.

Words to Remember

*The highest reward for a person's hard
work is not what you get for your toil, but
what you become as a result of it.*

John Ruskin

Staff News **Who's Doing What at JobLink?**

by The Needles Brothers

If you recently took a PC Troubleshooting course or the new Network+ certification course, than you already know about David and Bill Needles. And you also probably know that the two are brothers (Bill being the older of the two). But here are some things about them you may not know:



Bill (left) and Dave Needles

- This is the first time they have taught classes together (a unique approach for JobLink).
- Bill is married and has three kids.
- Bill has over 20 years of IT industry experience with PCs and networking.
- Dave is married with one high maintenance daughter.
- Dave has taught PC OS and application courses for over 10 years.
- Bill claims to have caught more pounds of Walleyes than Dave since 1995.

"Just another one of Bill's fish stories" Dave says with a grin. "It's important to let your older brother think he's ahead". Although it's hard to say who is ahead with catching Walleyes, one thing is for sure, students really like the Team Needles approach. And they have yet to be stumped when helping students fix PC or network problems. "We enjoy the classes and the students tell us they are really getting a lot out of the things we do in class" says Bill. Bill and Dave will be running classes together and individually starting next year, so check the schedule.

JobLink Website

by Rick Catania, MMD



The JobLink website, located at <http://www.joblink2000.org> is a great place to get information about JobLink. Need to find the times and days on current classes being offered? Log onto the website and click on the current registration button. Maybe you're interested in looking at some of JobLink's Photo Albums? Once again... log onto the website and then click on the Photos button. You'll see some familiar faces... some of the people you've probably seen before either at JobLink or on the job. One of my favorite spots is the JobLink Writers Section. Here one will find a variety of stories written by us... Steelworkers!

Suggestions for additions and improvements to the website are always welcome. Please direct these suggestions to Diane Lentz.

College-bound Students Receive JobLink Computers and IT Training

Robert Smith and Andy Smith, ICD

If you thought you saw college freshmen at JobLink this summer, you were not hallucinating. There was a good reason for several young people to be among the first to mingle with JobLink's Steelworkers.

This July JobLink conducted computer-training classes for the lucky recipients of computers suitable for college. Twenty-three machines, hand-assembled by Steelworkers through a community service project of the Institute for Career Development (ICD) and the Verizon Foundation, were given away to 23 college-bound students from Northwest Indiana in time for fall semesters.

JobLink participants who wanted to learn how to build computers did the work, and the parts were supplied by a \$21,100 grant. The project was called Steelworkers Versus the Digital Divide. According to a 2001 U. S. Department of Commerce study, more than 46 percent of Indiana households lack a computer.

Jill Hammel, veteran JobLink instructor, designed a customized course to help the college freshmen consider how to use a computer on campus. The students' evaluations were very positive. Regarding the classes paid for by the grant, one young participant stated, "I learned a lot and it was greatly appreciated." Another one said, "Keep up the good work and continue to reach out to young people and encourage them to go on and do better in their lives." A third person must have been working to create a collegiate vocabulary in describing Jill: "She was very amicable and jovial during the entire symposium."

After taking her computer to an Indianapolis campus, recipient Adrienne Anderson wrote ICD to report, "I am doing well in school and you are partially responsible. Nowadays everything is based around the Internet. I have to take quizzes online and I also use the Internet to keep in touch with students and my professors."

Adrienne noted that instructors also ask her to send homework via e-mail. It is more convenient – and even an advantage— not having to journey to the library to get online.

Fred Redmond of the United Steelworkers of America District 7 office pulled the recipients' names from a lottery barrel at the Lloyd McBride Hall last summer. Area high schools had submitted more than 50 names of young people who could not afford a personal computer. The Urban League of Northwest Indiana worked with the schools to identify the area college-bound students.

"Steelworkers use technology every day in the mills, so it's natural that they want to take computers apart and put them back together better," said Cindy Bacino, ICD's assistant director of administration and special projects.

"Fortunately they also love to give something to the next generation of workers, and assembling computers for college-bound kids who lack them gets Steelworkers excited."

Other Career Development Programs which conducted classes were U.S. Steel Midwest Operations and Interna-

tional Steel Group (ISG) Burns Harbor. Logistical planning of the project involved Steve Wagner, Joe Medellin, Diane Lentz and Doug Chapman in addition to the teachers.

During ten weeks of classes JobLink computer instructor Joe Zaragoza taught two classes how to work on computers. Used monitors were donated by the steel mills in the area, from individual donations, and from ICD learning centers.

"Once the computers were fully upgraded and the latest software had been added, they belonged to the 23 college-bound students from northwest Indiana many of whom attended classes at JobLink," Bacino said.

ICD has applied for another Verizon grant to extend the project next year. So if you see more college-bound kids on the JobLink premises, it doesn't necessarily mean that you have been working too hard.



(Continued from page 2) Joe Medellin

- 1). 2/3 of our sample regularly see notices of classes in their departments.
- 2). 1/2 said they would attend classes on Saturday.
- 3). 2 /5 are interested in Tuition Assistance, and classes leading to certification.
- 4). 1/4 are interested in understanding more about the history of steelworkers, steelmaking, and the financial aspects of the steel industry.
- 5). A majority are interested in topics that provide them with personal information, including Workers Compensation, Family Medical Leave, Social Security, and investments, including stocks and 401(k) management.
- 6). Classes of high interest include HVAC, small engine repair, carpentry, residential wiring, landscaping, deck building, and photo imaging.
- 7). Math continues to be an important need.
- 8). Almost all respondents rated classes as very good to excellent, with a similar result for the instructor rating and the JobLink staff.

Congratulations to our instructors and staff, and thank you for your valuable responses. They will help guide decisions on future class offerings and programs.

Joblink Reminder



JobLink will be closed for the holidays.

No classes: December 22 to January 2

Classes resume: January 5th

Have a Happy Holiday!

Bernard Kleiman *JobLink* Learning Center

ISPAT INLAND INC. (7-200)
3210 Watling Street
East Chicago, IN 46312

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
PERMIT NO. 1
EAST CHICAGO, IN
46321

JobLink Friends

Dave Alvarado	[Field Services]
Chris Balzer	[Plt. 4 Maint.]
Chuck Canty	[MHS]
Sue Castillo	[4 BOF]
Tom Christman	[80" Hot Strip]
Jesse Flores	[Plt. 4 Maint.]
Mike Florey	[Field Services.]
Julian Gonzalez	[MHS]
Brian Graska	[MMD]
Bob Guevara	[Plt. 1 Galv.]
Julian Gonzalez	[MHS]
Randy Hendrix	[Plant 2 Electrical]
Randy Lea	[2 Cold Strip]
Herman Loyd	[Int Log\Oper Yd]
Roy Moss	[Shop Services]
Debra Murrell	[4 BOF]
Mike Nelson	[4BOF]
David Reed	[#7 Blast Furnace]
Gail Richardson	[3 Cold Strip]
Phillip Rodriguez	[3 Cold Strip]
John Shultz	[Maint.]
Bob Smiley	[MHS]
Gene Sufana	[MMD]
John Sumichrast	[76" Hot Strip]
Tom Zmigrocki	[Shop Services]



**Starring at
JobLink-
Service Learners!
Learning new skills
while helping the
community.**

Quad Town Safety Village

Juan Acevedo	Carmen Martinez
Magdaleno Aceves	John Melendez
Steven Babick	Feliciano Mendez
James Clay Jr.	Diana Moore
Samuel Coleman	Larry Walton
Charles Markley	Bronston Newsome
Al Rodriguez	Jim Spasoff
Joe Magura	Rudy Schneider

Drywall for IUN Art Gallery

Jesse Bernal	Morris Marshall
Alex Cantrell	Carmen Martinez
William Carson	Feliciano Mendez
Jose Castillo	Gwenda Thames
James Clay Jr.	Pedro Villa Jr.
Melvin Coleman	Yolanda Villa
Juan Gonzales	Larry Walton
Pat Humphrey	Delman Williams
Thomas Lind	

Our Webmaster!
Rick Catania

Display Cabinet for Steel Exhibit

Art Casillo	Jack Coapstick	Anthony Davis
Art Delgado	Hilario Gonzalez	Ramon Ramirez
Joe Magura	Art White	Paul Maggio
		Tom Hurd

Safety Play & Harrassment Video

Raul Alfaro	John Maczek
Ivan Agosto	Marylou Mamrila
Jeff Danner	Jeff Manes
Emilio Garcia	Debra Murrell
John Gelon	Joe Orellana
Laura Gogolek	Betty Pompey
Ernie Gutierrez	Cesar Roque
Joe Gutierrez	Jim Spasoff
Randy Hendrix	Jerry Torres
Greg Marshall	John Walker
Melvin Coleman	Seretha Woods
Nick Valle	

Volunteer Day

Tom Christman,
Dave Coleman
Jack Coapstick
Juan A. Cruz
Karen Farrer
Tom Hargrove
Louise Lipman
Pat Matuga
Joe Woessner
Dorine Godinez

Wendell Harris
Randy Hendrix
Tom Hurd
Yoti Kale
Diane Lentz
Ray Lentz
Joe Magura
Mike Misiukiewicz
Frank Felker
John Franks

Roy Moss
Joe Santino
Don Spann
Tim Spanos
Brian Swann
Marcia Taylor
Joe Zaragoza
Dan Walters
Jill Hammel
Jan & Steve Wagner

Build a PC

Dave Alvarado
Victor Carrillo
Pedro Gonzalez
Steve Gwizdalski
Michael Johnson
Terry Mitchell
Ramon Ramirez
Loretta Roque
Ira Wells
Joe Woessner
Tom Zmigrocki