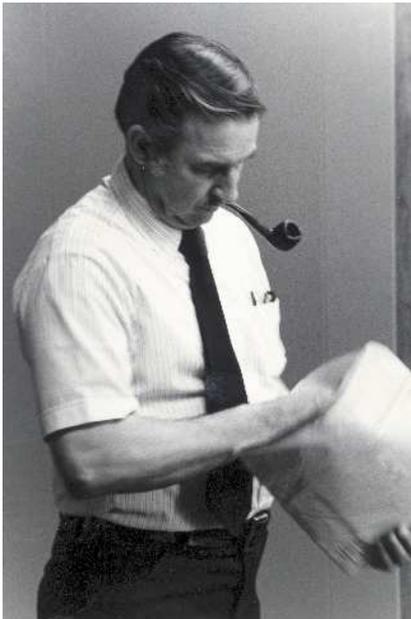


Neil D. Bucholz – Former Apprentice Training Coordinator Passes Away



The Industry is mourning the passing of Neil Bucholz, former Training Coordinator for UA 190 recently passed away after an extended illness.

Neil was a member of the first Washtenaw County Apprentice Training Class, where his own indenture in 1946 put him as the very first registered Steamfitter Apprentice in the history of the Local Program. He was named the “Official Historian” of UA 190, a title he felt was a great honor.

Neil was the first full-time Training Coordinator for UA 190. He was instrumental in negotiating the agreement that saw our program move independently to the campus of Washtenaw Community College (WCC). After moving there the Committee, with Neil’s involvement, registered our apprentices under the WCC’s program which enabled

our apprentices to receive credit for their school work. This allowed them to take a few additional classes and receive an Associates Degree from WCC, if they so desired. (Today, the Associates Degree is a requirement of our program.) This was the first program of its type in the country for the construction industry. It became the advent of the UA University, today a nationally recognized program

Neil served as a member of the Joint Apprenticeship Committee from January, 1974 through August, 1988. He served as the Secretary and Representative for the Apprentice and Journeyman System of Education.

Neil’s longtime experience as a tradesman, foreman and superintendent in the Mechanical Industry was applied to his duties as the Business Representative in Charge of Training. His tenure was for fifteen years. During this period of time he earned many Citations, including a Certificate from the United Association Instructor Program at Purdue University.



The Washtenaw County Joint Apprenticeship Committee (now the Greater Michigan UA Training Committee) honored Neil at the 1996 Apprenticeship Graduation for his distinctive dedication to Apprentice and Journeyman Training, along with being the author of the Committees operational procedure. He was proud to be named as the architect of the present system of training for Plumbers and Pipefitters.

Neil graduated from Ann Arbor High School, and was a Veteran of WWII, serving in the United States Navy. In July, 1947 he married Alice Theresa (Standing) in Gladstone, MI, who preceded him in death earlier this year.

