

UA Instructor Training Program

UA Prepares Instructors for the New Millennium



The United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry of the United States and Canada held their 46th Instructor Training Program, August 7-13th, 1999 at the Washtenaw Community College Campus.

The Program is a testament to the continuing concern in the UA for the highest quality of job performance for its members. It is the UA's belief that the Instructor who teaches the apprentice and journeymen of the piping trades, is the key person in maintaining the high level of performance for which the UA has long been recognized.

The main aim of this program is to help improve the teaching techniques, broaden the manipulative skills, and expand the scientific and technical knowledge relating to the trade, for UA Instructors.

The 1999 program also represents the last of the 20th Century. Many are asking themselves the question "Are we ready for the new millennium?" For the UA, the answer is a resounding "YES!"

The United Association is on the the road toward becoming an even stronger and more progressive union. With the new Internet features, CD ROMs and new Distance Learning Programs that are being developed by the Training Department, the UA is working to meet the many challenges of the upcoming new century.

Record Breaking Year for the UA



1999 represents another record breaking year for

the United Association Training Program. This year's program had 1,536 students enrolled - more that ever before! There were 291 first time participants in the program with 151 graduates. Along with those registration numbers, 49 States were represented along with 10 Provinces. *A tremendous way to end the Century.*

Orientation

On Sunday all 1,536 enrolled students convened at the Morris Lawrence Building at Washtenaw Community College for Student Orientation and review of the weeks activiites. Students heard rousing presentation on the tremendous activities at the UA Training Department from General President Martin J. Maddaloni. They also previewed the new Training Video. UA Director of Training George Bliss reviewed the weeks activities, and also took the opportunity to intorduce the staff of the Training Department. The program was a great send-off for the week's activities.



Left- General President Martin Maddaloni addresses the Instructors- Right - UA Training Department Director George Bliss reviewing the upcoming activities



Left - Larry Whitworth, President, Washtenaw Commmunity College - Right - Terry Curry, Director of MSU School of Labor & Industrial Relations



Greater Michigan UA local 190 Training Committee Instructor Representatives with Director of Training Bliss

UA Bookstore

The UA Bookstore provides textbooks with



up to date information regarding the subjects being taught. With 85 courses, 241 sections, and 1,567 students, it obviously is one of



the busiest places on campus. This is particularly true when you take into account that these books have a shelf-life of three years or less, after which they become obsolete and are revised or replaced. This year, as with others, some of the texts came off the presses just before the UA arrived.

Textbooks are published by the International Pipe Trades Joint Committee specifically for the plumbing and pipe fitting training needs. Here Instructors get their required classroom materials as well as having the opportunity to update their home local Libraries.



Computer Aided Drafting

Computers are a way of life and an important part of the UA Instructor Training Program. Students are taught the multi-benefits of computer aided drawing in the plumbing and mechanical industry.

The High Purity Computer Aided Drafting is a 40 hour course available only to Instructors who have taken Introduction to Computer Aided Drafting or who have

equivalent experience. During this class the Instructors explore the creation of three dimensional high purity piping models while utilizing special high purity CAD piping software. Techniques for applications to piping installation, including fabrication and data management were also explored.



Distance Learning



At this years UA Instructor Training Program there were numerous new professional courses for the Instructors to choose from. These courses have come about as a direct response to the "digital revolution".

Computers and electronic communications are playing an ever increasing role in the way we teach. That is the reason that the UA has instituted courses covering the

Internet, the UA's own Intranet, the use of CD-ROM's, distance learning techniques, development of lesson plans and preparation of Power Point presentations for teaching.

They are insuring that the UA Instructors will be able to expand the boundaries of how they teach through theses courses, which will be a tremendous help to the Instructors.



The 20 Hour class for Distance Learning Teaching Techniques covered the use of interactive television and other distance learning techniques. It addressed how to plan distance learning classes which included how to convert conventional classrom materials into a format suitable for distance learning as well as the presentation techniques for instructors.



Also covered was the use of internet pages, e-mail, chat-rooms, telecourses, audiotapes and instructor created videotapes in support

of a distance learning program. Hands-on practice using interactive television equipment was also provided.

We all are becoming more proficient in every aspect of electronic communications and the use of the Internet (whether we want to or not). The UA knows that the sooner they expose their teachers to this type of instruction and they begin to take advantage of the classes, the sooner they will become an active part of the digital age.



Valve Repair

As with other UA courses, the valve repair course was designed to meet industry needs. For example, with as many as 40,000 valves in a single nuclear plant that must be examined and tested on a regular basis, the need for workers well-trained in valve repair is tremendous. The UA answers that need with this course.

The class is comprised of about 25% textbook (**pictured to left**) and 75% hands-on work. Class members are instructed in the disassembly, inspection, repair and reassembly of different types of valves found in power plants and other industrial facilities. Students learned how to use valve reconditioning equipment and became skilled in the application of sensitive calibrating tools.



Fundamentals of Rigging



Rigging safety is taught to give the UA Journeymen and apprentices the most up-to-date information available to help protect themselves and their fellow

workers against injury while handling the materials and equipment they work with every day.



It teaches basic knots and their uses, wire rope and webb slings and their applications in the trades. Signaling methods and safe uses of everyday "Rules of Thumb" were also covered. This is one of the many safety classes taught to insure the safety of not only the UA worker, but all on the jobsite.



Installing Medical Gas Systems



The class Installing Medical Gas Systems was designed to provide both the general and specific information needed to develop local training

programs throughout the United Association.



A written exam and a brazing procedure is administered. Students who successfully passed this course qualified for a certification as a Medical Gas Installer/Brazer and as a Medical Gas Instructor of the United Association.

Principles of Learning

The Principles of Learning is a class designed for instructors attending their first year. Definition, nature and effects of learning along with various kinds of learning are reviewed. Implications of readiness, drive, reinforcement, exercise, habit, transfer of learning and retention and forgetting are also studied at length.

In addition to the basic principles of learning, the class also includes how to motivate the learner.





Welding Program

The UA Welder Certification Program has no parallel in the building and construction industry. The program provides pre-tested, certified and immediately available journeymen welders throughout the United States and Canada.

UA welders are tested at local training sites across the United States and Canada under a consistent set of guidelines and rules.



The flexible program accommodates special requirements of users and contractors. A user can request that welders be tested and certified for a specialized procedure that may be needed on a project.

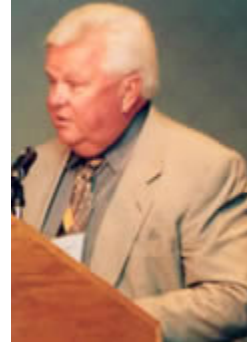
As we continue to be more health and safety conscious, business, industry and government continue to respond to public concern. A weld that is not properly done, or one that allows contamination poses a serious threat to safety and health. While the UA Welder Certification Program is setting new standards for welder testing procedures, its overriding concern is also for safety. The training received here helps to ensure that welders are performing only work for which they are fully qualified.



The training received here at the UA program prepares instructors to assure that the program at their home Locals provide contractors and users with the necessary skilled welders so that each and every project is delivered at the highest possible level of quality.

Supporting UA Training

Under the direction of UA General President Martin J. Maddaloni, the UA Training Department works year round to prepare for the Annual Instructor Training Program is committed to keeping up with current technology in all areas, developing not only training programs, but also certification and testing programs as well. As new technologies, materials, techniques, equipment and regulations are developed, the UA is there to assess the need and create the programs.



Left- UA General President Martin Maddaloni, Center - Secretary to the General President Doris Baker and General President

Maddaloni, Bottom - George Bliss, UA Director of Training

UA Special Representatives assigned to Training Department - Left - L. to R. Steve Kelly, Randy Ward, UA Welding



Department, Ron Albright, and Tommie Sweat Right - L. to R. - Brian McDonald, Sid Cavanaugh, Steven Allen, Peter Marzec



Left - L. to R. - UA Training Department - Wanda Jameson, Cathy Merkel, Pam Ellis, Barbara Hall, Sarah

Pingleton, General President Maddaloni receiving Proclamation from the County

Industry Day At The UA Training Program

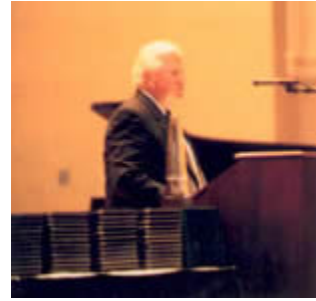
There is not better declaration of the quality of the skilled craft person working for the MCAA Mechanical Contractor than the UA Instructor Training Program. To better educate construction owners and users regarding the outstanding training received by our workers, they are invited to tour the UA Training Program. Along with the tour, the new UA Training Video was premiered. Representatives from the Construction Division of the Business Roundtable were also in attendance.





Graduation

The highlight of the training program is graduation. George Bliss, UA Director of Training (**pictured right**) presided over the 46th Annual United Association



Instructor Training Program Completion Ceremony held August 12, 1999. Assistant General President Randall Gardner (**pictured left**) gave the charge to the graduates.



Platform Guests - Left - L. to R. - Larry J. Mazzona, UA General Executive Board Member, James E. O'Mara, UA General Executive Board, Dr. Daniel H. Kruger, Professor of Labor Relations, Dr. Larry Whitworth, President Washtenaw Community College, Randall Gardner, UA Assistant General President, George H. Bliss, III, UA Director of Training - Right - Thomas Patchell, UA General Secretary-Treasurer, Richard Shaneyfelt, St. Mary's Church, Jack Barnes, UA General Executive Board, John F. Greenwood, UA General Executive Board, Louis J. Ackerman, UA General Executive Board



A significant crowd was on hand to make this a most memorable graduation ceremony. They also heard from Dr. Larry

Whitworth, (***pictured right - top***) President of Washtenaw Community College where the program is held, and Dr. Daniel Kruger from Michigan State University (***pictured right bottom***). The spectators provided enthusiastic support for the one hundred fifty one men and women who became Certified Instructors.

