LOCAL 401 TOPS OUT on Comcast Center
Remember the Meaning of Labor Day

Throughout the year, especially summer, holidays serve as a way for family and friends to come together, and to remind us of certain historical events, which have made America the great nation it is today. Unfortunately, many of these summer holidays have become just a “day off from work,” with no time spent remembering the true meaning of the day. Labor Day is one of the holidays steeped in traditions that have been lost to many. For those outside of the labor movement, Labor Day is nothing more than the last long weekend indicating the end of summer, with its origin and significance remaining a mystery to those enjoying the day off. But for ironworkers and building trades’ workers, the day is a time for celebration of today’s unions, and is evidence of the hard work and sacrifice of those who came before us, who fought to set the standards in the workplace we all enjoy.

Laws in place today may seem a bit silly or somewhat overstated to some; but looking back, who in their right mind would ever let a child work day after day in a factory or in a coalmine. Our laws concerning child labor are a product of the abuses inflicted on many children in the early days of the Industrial Age in the beginning of the 20th century. In those early times, young children were often exploited as a cheap source of labor. The standard workweek for an adult during those times was 12 hours a day; 7 days a week, and in those days, they made barely enough of a wage to survive. Our 8-hour workday that we often take for granted, came only after some very fierce battles in the coalmines of the Appalachian Mountains against mine owners who worked tirelessly to hold down and harass the workers who sought to better their workplace.

Many workplace conditions we consider as a normal everyday right of employment were not so normal just a generation before ours. Conditions such as overtime pay for work in excess of 40 hours worked in a week or 8 hours in a day. Overtime pay for work performed on Saturdays and Sundays or holidays was not even a thought. Many of our current workplace rights can be attributed to the efforts of organized labor. These were not part of the fabric of our nation in the early days of the Industrial Age, and we can thank our early unions for their beginnings.

The parades for today’s Labor Day holiday were born out of the efforts of the union movement of the 1880s. Many unions, such as the Iron Workers, got their start around this time. All were formed with the same idea in mind — make conditions for the workers in that field of work better, and to provide basic conditions available to all workers. In 1882, the very first Labor Day event was organized as a mass demonstration in New York City with workers taking an unpaid day off to focus attention on their workplace, bringing light to the common everyday unfair practices, and on the much-needed social reform the union movement proposed.

Today, events for Labor Day are planned in many areas of the country as a way to commemorate the day. In cities with a union presence, large events are planned; parade routes are marked, and barricades set-up all in preparation for the huge celebration to honor area workers. As a part of the festivities, area local unions and building trades councils plan catered events or picnics for their members and families’ amusement as a way to thank them for their participation in the day’s event, reminiscent of very first Labor Day celebrations. If your local has planned an event for this Labor Day weekend, take part in the celebration. In keeping with the tradition of the holiday, take time to remember the true meaning of Labor Day. What we in the labor movement have today must be protected. As we observe Labor Day, we honor the workers who struggled and fought for the rights and privileges we enjoy today, and for those who paid the ultimate sacrifice for the benefit of future generations of workers.

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On The Cover
Local 401 (Philadelphia) topped out on the Comcast Tower at 17th and JFK Boulevard, Philadelphia. The building is a 57-story building and is a height of 975 feet, the tallest building in Philadelphia.
Local 401 (Philadelphia) topped out on the Comcast Tower at 17th and JFK Boulevard, Philadelphia. The building is a 57-story building and is a height of 975 feet, the tallest building in Philadelphia. There were 14,000 tons of steel placed and the job started in January 2006 and was topped out on July 12, 2007. One hundred and twenty seven ironworkers were on the job. Contractor Cornell had 73 ironworkers on site with the other contractors being Tom Lindstrom, Roma, PBA Enclos Corp., Northwest, CSN, and Jupiter. The general foreman was Carl Pola, and the steward was John Joyce. The foremen were Edward Allen, Jeff Schick, Mike Kulp, Mike Joyce, Nick DiFabio, Mike LeVan, Mark Wright, Tony Franks, Larry Pascal, Mike Davies, Bill Smith, Ed Neilio, Bill Cahill, Bill Mahoney, Gene Noel, Sean Burns, Gary McGuire, and Robert Sweeney.

Comcast Tower was erected using two of Cornell’s externally climbing Tower Gantry Cranes. The TG1000 was positioned at the northwest corner and the TG1900 was located at the Southeast corner. Both cranes divide their time between erecting the structural steel and servicing the concrete core construction.

The building structure is a concrete core up to the 57th floor, surrounded by a steel framed floor system. Above the 57th floor is the structural steel “crown” of the building, which will house the rooftop mechanical equipment and a liquid damper that will be utilized to minimize the building sway. The construction manager was L. F. Driscoll; the fabricator was Cives Steel; the erector was Cornell & Co., Inc.

At the topping out ceremony were Business Manager Joseph J. Dougherty, Business Agent Charles J. Roberts, Business Agents/Organizers Robert E. MacDonald, and Owen McMullen.
General President Joseph Hunt and Political and Legislative Representative Dave Kolbe visited Local 272 in March 2009. General President Hunt and Representative Kolbe were given a tour of the local and their facilities, and warmly welcomed by the local officers and their members.
LOCAL 272 Works at the Southern Defense Command

Superior Rigging and Local 272 (Miami, Fla.) ironworkers work at the Southern Defense Command. Over 3,123 tons of iron are being set and at the peak of construction, 51 ironworkers were employed in all aspects of the trade. Construction is being completed ahead of schedule. The ironworkers are working with the Army Corp. of Engineers, Col. Norberto Cintron, and Hansel Phelps Corp. The job is scheduled to be turned over in 2012.

Kneeling: General Garza, USMC, and Col. Norberto R. Cintron, United States Army Command Engineer, U.S. Southern Command and other members of our Armed Forces who Local 272 would like to recognize for their dedication to our country.
Ivey’s Construction, Inc. of Merritt Island, Florida, was selected by NASA to build a new Lightning Protection System for Launch Complex 39B at the Kennedy Space Center. The new system will support the launch of the Constellation Program’s new Ares 1 rockets. The Ares 1 rocket is NASA’s next generation of space vehicle. The lightning protection system is designed to reduce the chance of a direct lightning strike to the Ares 1 rocket and the launch complex during the processing period and prior to flight.

This project consists of providing the labor, equipment, and materials to construct three 594-foot, self-supporting structural steel lightning protection towers at Launch Complex 39B at the Kennedy Space Center. The towers have an overhead catenary wire system designed to protect the new Constellation Program’s Ares 1 Crew Launch rocket for the from lightning strikes. Local 808 (Orlando) provided approximately 25 ironworkers for the project. Kevin W. Ivey, president and owner of Ivey’s Construction, Inc., says, “I am extremely proud of the hard work and ingenuity shown by the members of Local 808 and Ivey’s project team. They made what was a very complicated and difficult project look easy.”

The job involves site work, the installation of 216 precast concrete piles, cast in place concrete foundations, structural steel fabrication, structural steel erection, FRP lightning mast fabrication and erection, erection of the catenary wire system, rack and pinion elevators, and electrical work. Ivey’s is self-performing the concrete, structural steel erection, lightning mast erection, assembly and disassembly of the M21000 lift crane, and the catenary wire system with members of Local 808.
The structural steel towers are approximately 500 tons each. Each tower includes a 7-foot diameter, 103-foot long FRP (fiberglass reinforced plastic) lightning mast. The FRP mast weighs approximately 66,000 lbs. The massive towers were partially assembled horizontally on the ground and then lifted into place with a Manitowoc 21000 crane. A Liebherr 1280 (300 ton) crane was used to “tail” the loads. The heaviest section was close to 275,000 lbs. The mast section weighed approximately 110,000 lbs. and required a crane tip height of about 650 feet.

Ivey’s and Mammoet were required to mobilize and build the crane on the first tower site, break the crane down and move it to the next tower site, and then do it all over again for the last tower. To save time, Mammoet used Goldhofer trailers to move the crane car body, which weighted approximately 1,100,000 lbs., from site to site. Although the launch pad is a large place, the working space available was limited due to the various fuel lines that run close to the tower sites.

Ivey’s Construction, Inc. has a long history with the union iron-workers. The company was founded by Wade A. Ivey in 1973. Wade was a member of Local 808 and is still a trustee for the apprentice program and health and welfare and pension plans. Ivey’s is now owned and operated by Wade’s oldest son, Kevin W. Ivey, and is poised to be in business for decades to come. Wade is “semi” retired and is still involved in the business. Ivey’s Construction has a long history of construction work at the Kennedy Space Center, and has successfully worked on every major launch complex and facility since 1975.
<p><strong>Project Information</strong></p>

- Owner: NASA, John F. Kennedy Space Center, Fla.
- Project Start Date: July 2007
- Currently 80% Complete
- Project Completion: March 2010
- Contract Amount: $27,915,000.00

<p><strong>Project Team</strong></p>

- Vice President/Project Manager: Rocky Johnson (Former Local 808 member)
- General Superintendent: Roy Rafferty (Local 808 member)
- Superintendent: Joe Abreu
- Quality Control Manager: Mark Lucas
- Safety: Kevin Hamilton
- General Foreman: Steve Thomas (Local 808 member)
- Raising Gang Foreman: Duke Web (Local 808 member)
- Miscellaneous Foreman: Matt Taylor (Local 808 member)

<p><strong>Project Subcontractors</strong></p>

- Structural Steel Fabrication: Steel Services Inc./Littell Steel
- Manitowoc 21000 Crane: Mammoet USA
- Liebherr 1280 Crane: Beyel Brothers
- FRP Lightning Mast: Ershigs
- Elevator: Mid American Elevator/ USA Hoist
- Painting: HIS Painting
- Electrical: Chrome Electric
I am Union. I am Sportsman.

I Belong.

The Great Outdoors.

It’s deep inside your bones. Like the blood coursing through your veins, it’s at the very core of who you are.

Whether it’s fins, fur or feathers that calls you, everything else takes a back seat when the season opener rolls around. You’re always ready to gear up, get out and experience the rich rewards that only you and those who share this special bond can understand.

At the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance we understand that connection because our bond with each other runs as deep as our love of the great outdoors. We are an exclusive community of hunters and anglers who also share the brotherhood of being proud Union members. That’s what makes the USA so special. It is by and for Union members and it comes to you with the generous and dedicated support of your Union.

But above all, the USA is your club. When you join the USA, you’re helping to ensure future generations have quality places to hunt and fish. You’re also making a commitment to encourage friends and family to participate. More members means bigger and better benefits, discounts and services. More members means more USA hunting, shooting and fishing events. More members means we have a stronger, more unified voice to preserve our hunting and fishing heritage.

So, join us today and help spread the word about the Union Sportsmen’s Alliance. Because as a proud member of both your Union and the USA, you’re more than welcome. 

You belong.

Join Today At www.UnionSportsmen.org
Or call us at 1-877-872-2211

Your $25 USA Membership Comes Loaded With Benefits:

- USA-logo Buck knife ($30 value)
- 12 chances to win in a Gun-a-Month giveaway
- 1-Year subscription to a top outdoor magazine
- Subscription to the USA newspaper, The Union Sportsmen’s Journal
- $25 gift certificate for Beretta field gear
- Money-saving discounts on outdoor gear
- Personalized USA membership card
- Free MyTopo.com online mapping subscription
- Chances to win exceptional prizes and trips
- Access to “Members-Only” section of the USA website
- Free membership in the TRCP

A $115 Value for just $25!
Safety—Union’s Oldest Objective

The Iron Worker International was established over 110 years ago with job safety as one of its primary missions. At that time, an ironworker could expect to ply the trade for only about eight years before becoming disabled or killed in a job related accident. Our work is still very dangerous, though accidents are not as prevalent as they were back then. In the first 70 years, progress from that dreadful record was slow but steady. But whatever the improvement, ironwork will always involve substantial risk to life and limb. However, through training, improved technology, the evolution of safety rules adopted to assure safe work practices, and continuing efforts to cultivate self-preservation instinct, an ironworker’s chances are better than they were to reach the Golden Age of Retirement.

Over the past 40 years, safety for ironworkers has increased dramatically. This has come about through our continued focus of resources and the high priority given to health and safety training. In today’s world, an apprentice ironworker can expect to take classes associated with steel erection, rebar placement, post tensioning, scaffold erection, fall protection, crane safety, rigging, crane signals, material handling, exposure to hazardous materials, such as lead, asbestos, and welding fumes, and many more too numerous to mention. Between the International, IMPACT, district councils, and local union training funds, more than $50 million dollars per year is spent on training, with a high percentage being spent on safety and health training. Along with training, IMPACT has provided drug testing, so we can offer our contractors a drug-free workforce. By doing this, our contractors can obtain lower rates on insurance premiums, and that could be the difference between a job going union or non-union.

Another area that has helped our members last at the trade longer is the requirements of the OSHA Subpart R—Steel Erection Standard. This was developed with the help of the Iron Workers International, along with their signatory contractors, through negotiated rulemaking. This one standard has provided more safety requirements for our trade than any other to date has. It requires training in areas such as fall protection, multiple lift rigging procedures, structural steel assembly, installation of steel decking, site conditions, and construction sequence, just to name a few. Once an apprentice or journeyman has completed the training, they receive a card to prove they have completed all requirements under the standard. This training package was produced by the Ironworkers National Fund, and was made available to all local unions in our organization.

Another area where ironworkers are providing their skills is the mining industry. The International has been involved with the Mine Safety and Health Administration, MSHA, for over seven years. The instructor training required to teach ironworkers to work on a mine site is offered at the University of San Diego each summer. The worker training is a 24-hour course providing them the safety and health training required for them to gain access to the mine site. Here again, this training is provided by the Ironworkers National Fund, with assistance from the MSHA Training Academy.

So what started over 110 years ago with a very short life expectancy has increased into a safer work place for our brothers and sisters. Their chances are much better to reach the Golden Age of Retirement with all of their fingers and toes attached. We will continue to fight for the right of everyone to return home safe everyday. Let’s keep it going for another 100 years.
New Architectural and Ornamental Training Package

The Apprenticeship and Training Department and National Training Fund are proud to announce completion of their latest training package entitled “Architectural and Ornamental Ironworking.” Working with IMPACT, and a labor-management advisory group, the new manual covers all areas of architectural and ornamental ironworking.

The reference manual contains 20 units:
- Unit 1: Curtain Wall Systems
- Unit 2: Window Wall Systems
- Unit 3: Sloped Walls and Skylights
- Unit 4: Storefronts and Entranceways
- Unit 5: Sealants
- Unit 6: Glazing Systems and Glass Rails
- Unit 7: Testing Window and Curtain Wall Systems
- Unit 8: Introduction to Doors
- Unit 9: Installing Swing Doors
- Unit 10: Installing Door Closers
- Unit 11: Installing Sliding Doors and Fronds
- Unit 12: Installing Revolving Doors
- Unit 13: Installing Overhead Doors
- Unit 14: Installing Anchors and Fasteners
- Unit 15: Installing Stairs and Ladders
- Unit 16: Installing Catwalks and Grating
- Unit 17: Installing Fence and Guard Rails
- Unit 18: Installing Detention Systems
- Unit 19: Erecting Space Frames
- Unit 20: Miscellaneous Architectural and Ornamental Work (support steel, canopies, sign supports and signs, and flag poles)

A large number of manufacturers and contractors contributed time and resources to the development of this new manual including:
- TSI/Exterior Wall Systems
- Enclos Corporation
- Royal Guard Fence
- Kawneer North America
- DORMA Entrance Systems
- LCN/Ingersoll-Rand
- Aker Construction
- Halfen
- Megadoor
- Door Engineering Company
- American Fence Products
- Hoover Fence Company
- Pauly Jail Building Company
- Oldcastle Precast Modular/Idcastle Security
- Hilti North America
- Novum Structures LLC
- Sharon Stairs
- Wayne-Dalton Corporation
- YKK AP America
- Collier Safe Company
- Henry Gurtweiler Steel Erectors
- Bosworth Steel Erectors
- B&B Glass, Inc.
- Bechtel National Incorporated
- Hangar Door Company
- Highway Safety Corporation
- cHc Fabricators
- Trussbilt
- Idcastle Security

Like all of our training packages, the package is designed for use by the ironworker instructor and student and contains a reference manual, instructor guide, student workbook, blueprints, and a DVD for the instructor.

Reference Manual—The reference manual is the heart of the training package and contains all of the content or information the ironworker student needs to learn during the course. To support the content presented in the reference manual there are photographs, drawings, safety tips, and other information.

Instructor Guide—The instructor guide is designed for use only by the course instructor. The guide contains general and specific information and suggestions on how to teach the course using the package. Also included in the guide are the tests and the answers to both the assignment sheets (in the student workbook) and to the tests.

Student Workbook—The ironworker student will use the workbook before and during classroom and shop sessions throughout the course. The workbook contains assignment sheets for each of the units of instruction in the reference manual. These can be used as homework or may be used as in-class activities for individuals or small groups of students. The answers to the assignment sheets are in the instructor guide. The workbook may also contain job sheets used by the instructor and student to learn hands-on skills.

Blueprints—The blueprints support the content in the reference manual and may be used during classroom presentations, completion of assignment sheets and/or job sheets and when taking tests.

DVD—The DVD is designed for use by the instructor before and during each course session. The DVD contains presentations (each containing a number of slides) designed to be projected by a computer on to a screen in the classroom. In addition to text slides supporting the content in the reference manual, these presentations may also include video segments of key skills and Internet links that will take the user to websites of companies and organizations related to the content being presented. The DVD also contains blueprints and other supplemental materials the instructor can use during classroom presentations.

We are confident that this new training package will be well received by local unions and will become an essential component in the development of skilled ironworkers ready to meet the needs of our contractors. Apprenticeship coordinators and directors can order the package through the online bookstore.

For more information on this new training package, please contact this department at 202-383-4870.
U.S. Department of Labor: Serious about Prevailing Wage Enforcement & Surveys

“A government that works for the people”—hard to believe, isn’t it? We now see the dividends of the hard work of the Iron Workers, the building trades and their contractors in pushing to ensure a level-playing field in public construction. I’ve recently had the pleasure of meeting Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis and can confirm she is a public official who comes from labor, grew up with labor, and genuinely cares about labor.

Secretary Solis has directed the Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division to make investigations of contractor wage and hour violations a priority again—as it should be, of course. Common problems are the use of under-qualified contractors who fail to pay the prevailing wage for a particular trade; a failure to submit true and accurate certified payroll records; the non-payment of time-and-half overtime pay; and the misclassification of the trade worked (paying the laborer rate instead of the ironworker, for example). These are all time-tested techniques of the dishonest contractor on public works projects.

Our system of labor relations was once set up as a model of collaboration through collective bargaining, along with prevailing wages; project labor agreements, etc. Yet for too many years (and not just the last eight) to send a prevailing wage complaint to the U.S. Department of Labor was seen as sending it into a black hole of a bureaucracy that could not (or would not) move to bring justice. As someone once put it to me, “it’s a cheater’s paradise out there.” A U.S. Government Accountability Office report presented to Congress on March 25 said it all in its title: “Department of Labor: Wage and Hour Division’s Complaint Intake and Investigative Processes Leave Low Wage Workers Vulnerable to Wage Theft.”

But in the now-trademark words of Secretary Solis: “You’d better believe there is a new sheriff in town.” At the BCTD annual conference in Washington this spring, she added, “I am committed to supporting Davis-Bacon and will strongly enforce our laws, including prevailing wages.”

In another recent statement, she said “the department has begun shifting resources to its agencies charged with enforcing workplace safety and health laws, along with the Fair Labor Standards Act.” Under the DOL’s budget request, the Division would receive $227.7 million and funding for over 1,570 employees. This would be an increase of $35 million and another 288 full-time additional employees since last year.

With the increase of investigators, there’s also much-needed change back to proven methodology instead of bogus, so-called voluntary compliance. In times past, we might have to build a self-completed case and hope the DOL might look at it. There are now both the resources and the willingness to move much quicker on violations. It is important that Iron Worker organizers, business managers and signatory contractors understand this change. Please contact me directly so that we can further discuss how to go about filing complaints.

As part of the effort to have transparency for the public funds allocated for the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), wage surveys are being ramped up by the DOL. As we’ve reported, in some cases it’s been years since some locals have had surveys and it’s falling upon us to make sure we are prepared properly to see we prevail with our CBAs, either maintaining this status; regaining it; or getting it for the first time in some cases. This Department will continue to notify locals when the DOL is beginning a survey, as well as providing information.

The Labor Department has announced that they will be holding five regional Prevailing Wage Training Conferences nationally through 2009, including Washington, D.C. this month. They will be part of its ARRA Enforcement Initiative, which includes numerous other trainings and retooling this year alone. The focus will be on effective compliance with wage enforcement, as well as surveys. We will keep you posted on the details. And don’t forget to check out www.recovery.gov for state-by-state stimulus information.

Sources: wire reports
General Foreman and Superintendent Training for Ironworkers

IMPACT and the National Training Fund (NTF) are developing a new training manual and supporting course entitled “General Foreman and Superintendent Training for Ironworkers.” These materials are being developed as a result of the suggestions of the employer foremen who have been attending the current Foreman Training course. IMPACT and the NTF have been conducting the Foreman Training course within our district councils for several years—and in each course, the question is raised “When will you have a course for general foremen and superintendents?”

To ensure that the new manual and course meets the needs of our signatory employers, IMPACT convened a labor/management advisory group that met in April in Washington, DC (with some participants joining the meeting by conference call). Participants in the meeting included:

- Beth O’Quinn, Specialized Carriers and Riggers Association
- David Cornellier, TSI Exterior Wall Systems
- Fred Codding, NARSC/NAMOA
- John Marsch, CEO, TAG Constructors (TAUC)
- Ames Martin, TAG Constructors (TAUC)
- Joe Gericke, TAG Constructors (TAUC)
- Frank Piccione, Apprenticeship and Training Department
- Harvey Swift, IMPACT
- Ann Blouse, Materials Development Consultant
- Woody Scally, Mosaic Learning
- Rick Sullivan, IMPACT

The labor/management task force recommended a “blended learning” course for general foremen and superintendents. This means that part of the training will be done online and part of the course will be done using group-based training.

The proposed topics to be included in the training manual and course include:

- Estimating
- Planning and Scheduling
- Budgeting
- Dealing with Challenges on the Jobsite
- Project Completion

Look for more information soon on the development of this exciting new training initiative. For more information, contact Harvey Swift, IMPACT’s Assistant Director of Education and Training at hswift@impact-net.org or by calling 800-545-4921.
Saving for college can be a daunting prospect—but with education costs rising almost 6% every year, now is the time to get started. **Union Plus may be able to help, with a $500 College Savings Grant** for union members who open a new 529 college savings or pre-paid tuition account before November 30, 2009. Visit [UnionPlus.org/CollegeSavings](http://UnionPlus.org/CollegeSavings) for details and an easy-to-complete grant application. To be eligible for this grant you must participate in at least one of the following programs: Union Plus Credit Card, UnionSecure Insurance, or Union Plus Mortgage.
When Injury Downtime Turns Into Seasonal Layoff, Ironworker Turns to Mortgage Assistance Program

Dan Thomason of Demotte, IN, and Ironworkers Local 395 (Hammond, Ind.), is no stranger to missing work during cold weather. “It’s something we’ve all learned to deal with,” he says. Last year, however, the layoff came as he was recovering from a long and unavoidable medical leave following surgery. Thomason, a journeyman ironworker, realized he could be looking at another month or more without pay, and the mortgage would be coming due. So he called upon the Union Plus Mortgage Assistance Program to help see him through.

Demotte is a small town near the Kankakee River in northern Indiana. Over the last nine years Thomason has gotten used to driving up to an hour to work at construction sites in the larger cities like Michigan City, Portage, Hammond and Gary. “You do what you have to do,” he says.

But Thomason couldn’t do his job if he couldn’t use his hands. So when he developed severe carpal tunnel syndrome, and his hands became numb and swollen, there was no alternative to having surgery and taking a disability leave that ended up leading right into winter. “As soon as I found out I was laid off,” he says, “that’s when I called for mortgage assistance. It was a no-brainer.”

The mortgage assistance benefit had actually been a major factor in choosing their mortgage. With two young children to think about, Thomason and his wife Elizabeth had wanted some security in the event of a prolonged strike or layoff, and only the Union Plus program through Chase offered mortgage assistance.

The Ironworkers Union Plus Mortgage Assistance Program can cover your mortgage payments in the event of a layoff, disability, strike or lockout. This one-of-a-kind union benefit program has paid out over $4.3 million in assistance since its inception. The program offers interest-free loans to union members, as well as their parents and children, who have had a Union Plus Mortgage for more than a year.

“Interest-free is really the key,” Thomason says. “It means you’re not getting hammered by interest charges while you pay it back.” And those no-interest payments can be made for as little as $75 a month, making it easier for working families to get back on their feet.

“Plus, the program is really simple to use,” Thomason says, “and we were able to get the help quickly, just when we needed it. I was surprised how easy it was.”

During these tough economic times, many homeowners are looking into refinancing their mortgages. Thomason recommends that union families look into getting a union mortgage. “I’ve recommended this program to my friends, because we’re all in the same boat. It can really pay to think ahead.”

Considering the purchase or refinance of a home? The Union Plus Mortgage Program, provided by Chase, offers a full-range of mortgage products for union members, their parents and children. To learn more about the Union Plus Mortgage Program, call 1-800-848-6466 from 8:30 a.m. to 7 p.m. Eastern Time Monday through Friday or visit UnionPlus.org/Mortgage.

If you have had a Union Plus mortgage, credit card or insurance policy for at least a year and are facing financial difficulty, help may be available through the Union SAFE program. Visit UnionPlus.org/UnionSAFE for more information on layoff, disability, education and hospital care grants available to Union Plus program participants. If you’re worried you might lose your home, whether you have a union mortgage or not, call the Union Plus Save My Home Hotline at 1-866-490-5361 any time day or night.

Union Plus helps ironworker Dan Thomason and wife Elizabeth make their mortgage payment while Dan was out on disability.
Thoughts from an Old Timer

Robert F. Ball
72 Lamb Road
Sherman, TX 75090

Iron Workers Magazine
1750 New York Ave., Suite 400
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Sirs & Brother Ironworkers,

My name is Robert Ball and I go by my middle name Frank and that was what all the ironworkers that I’ve worked with called me.

I was initiated as an apprentice into Local 84 in Houston, Texas on February 11, 1955. After serving my apprenticeship there, I worked for about 5 years in Houston and then I started booming out & worked out of Local 10, Kansas City, Local 1, Chicago, Local 395, Hammond, Ind., Local 25, Detroit, Local 492, Nashville, TN, Local 17, Cleveland, OH, Local 44, Cincinnati, OH, Local 66, San Antonio, TX, Local 125, Beaumont, TX, Local 135, Galveston, TX, Local 14, Spokane, WA, and Local 625 in Hawaii. In 1967, I had been general foreman for R.E. Daily Engineers for about 2 years and a brother ironworker that I worked with in Houston came to Detroit and worked for me for a couple weeks to get enough money to go to Alaska and asked me to go with him, so I gave the company two weeks notice and in July 1967, I went to Alaska and at that time there was lots of overtime work going on the offshore oil platforms in the Cook Inlet and that was where I started my ironworker career in Alaska. I transferred my membership from Local 84 to 751 in 1968 and worked all over the state of Alaska and worked for approximately 10 years on the Alaskan pipeline.

I met a lady, Mary Thomson while I was working in Ketchikan and ended up marrying her and we brought a piece of property near Wasilla, Alaska and had a house built on it and we lived there until 1992.

We met a man and his wife, David and Barbara Parker, who came to Alaska from New Mexico and they had both been reporters, so they got jobs with the Anchorage Times. They built a house about a mile from our house. One evening while I was sitting by my fireplace, on a cold December day, David stopped by and said, “Frank, let’s build a sailboat.” I though he meant a small sailboat that we could put at Big Lake, which is about 20 miles from our homes. So, I said, “sure, I’ll go in partnership with you.” He said, “great, I’ll get us some plans for one.” About two weeks later, he came by with plans for a 43-foot Ketch rig sailboat designed by Bruce Roberts in California.

We proceeded to build a mold to place our glass fiber and C-flex planking on so as to be able to apply the resin to form our fiberglass hull. When the weather got warm enough in May of 1977, we began the work of building our boat. The project took us 7 years to finish.

When the boat was ready to go in the water, we had to hire a flat bed semi to haul it 150 miles from near Wasilla to Resurrection Bay at Seward for launching. The boat stayed there for a year and we put the finishing touches on it including the masts and sails and did several trial runs there in Resurrection Bay. In July 1984 the four of us moved aboard and on August 1, 1984, we left the Seward and headed across the Gulf of Alaska to Elfin Cove and the beginning of our trip down the inside passage to Seattle and from Seattle to San Francisco and down the California coast to San Diego. Then we went down into Mexico and all the coastal towns and villages all the way south to about 50 miles north of Acapulco.

Then we turned and headed back home to the U.S.

We were on the boat for about one year altogether and we rented a slip in San Diego and left it there and went back to Alaska and our homes and eventually sold the boat.

We named the boat the “Artic Grayling.”

I don’t mean to bore you with so much information, but I just wanted to say how my ironworking career has been good to me, by making this experience of building the Artic Grayling and sailing it to Mexico and making good money through the years and providing me with a good retirement and health benefits.

I took my retirement through Local 75 in 2000 and I am now a Life-time Member of the Iron Workers. I will be 77 years old on 8/16/09.

Thank you!

Robert F. Ball
Membership #555516

P.S. I worked with Matt Groskie on the Alaska pipeline and other jobs in Alaska.
Local 46 (Springfield, Ill.) celebrated 100 years of history in 2008. General President Joseph Hunt traveled to Springfield for the celebration dinner. Also on hand, was Tadas Kicielinski, president of the District Council of St. Louis and Vicinity, who made a special presentation to the local. Congratulations to Local 46 on their momentous occasion!
Local 118 Celebrates 100th Anniversary

Local 118 (Sacramento, CA) marked its 100th anniversary on February 20, 2008. Since 1908, Local 118 has been serving Northern California and Northern Nevada ironworkers, training young apprentices and ensuring our members have a safe working environment and pension when they retire. From just 11 members in 1908, Local 118 has grown to more than 1,600 members today.

Local 118 had a 100 year dinner party on March 17, 2008 to celebrate their monumental occasion. Special guests included General Secretary Walter Wise, who presented Local 118 President Tim Hudson and Financial Secretary-Treasurer/Business Manager John Rafter with a small scaled engraved chrome beam to commemorate their 100 year anniversary.

District Council of the State of California President Joe Standley presented Local 118 with a commemorative plaque.

Dave Jones, Assemblyman for the California state legislature presented Local 118 with an Assembly resolution for 100 years of advocacy for ironworkers and working families.

Local 118 also received letters of recognition from California State Senator Darrell Steinberg and Sacramento Mayor Heather Fargo.
Dear Ironworkers Union,

As I plan for my Dad’s surprise party of 30 Years of Service in Local #433 (Los Angeles), I am reminded of his love for adventure, satisfaction of seeing a project completed and quality craftsmanship.

He has been an ironworker for nearly 30 years, as he began working in the union in 1978, just a year after I (oldest daughter) was born. Some of my earliest memories are:

- The pride Dad would take in driving by different job sites throughout Southern Los Angeles to show us jobs he was either working on or had completed.
- Dad leaving for work before the sun would rise.
- Dad picking me up from school and being dirty from a hard day’s work and going to get slurpies from 7-11.
- Dad driving down to the Union Hall on days when work was slow or rained out.
- Dad coming home upset after losing a colleague on the job.

It wasn’t until Dad’s injury on the job and I was older, that I realized the bravery and the courage that it took for him to complete his job each day.

Some of the job sites I remember Dad working on:

- The STAPLES Center in Los Angeles—home of the Lakers, Clippers and Kings
- A job located in Texas for a few months away from family and friends while I was in college
- Numerous high-rise buildings throughout the Los Angeles area
- An extremely large home set up in the hills of Simi Valley. Dad enjoyed the challenge that this project provided.

Whatever the job or assignment, my Dad was committed to completing it with excellent craftsmanship. His strength has not only been seen on the job, but also in the personal challenges he pursues such as rock climbing (Yosemite National Park, Stoney Point, Joshua Tree) as well as bike riding down from Oregon to California. My Dad has consistently demonstrated perseverance, strength and determination. I’m grateful for this opportunity to celebrate my Dad, Michael D. Newhart’s 30 years of service in Local #433.

Regards,

Nicole Newhart Smorra—loving daughter of Michael D. Newhart, Local 433 (Los Angeles)
Anthony Adcock served his apprenticeship and is now a Local 1 (Chicago) journeyman ironworker. Along with ironworking, Anthony has also received his Bachelor of Fine Arts (BFA) from the American Academy of Art. Anthony is now a professional artist working primarily in Chicago.

Anthony painted this piece in honor of Local 1. The painting was presented to Local 1 and is on display in the apprenticeship office.

The painting represents all facets of ironworking. The right side of the painting is dedicated to concrete reinforcement, and the labor involved with installing rebar. The left side depicts the erection of the Sears Tower. The background shows the beautiful Chicago skyline on a sunny day. The International Iron Workers logo is painted in the center of the piece surrounded by a crew of ironworkers. The piece is meant to show the pride of the Local 1 ironworkers.

Submitted by: Al Bass, Local 1 apprenticeship coordinator
Robert Huber Jr., son of local 361 (Brooklyn, N.Y.) member Robert Huber, caught his first largemouth bass while fishing at Grumman Lake, Calverton, New York.

Payge Pacholka, age 13, daughter of Brad Pacholka, Local 25 (Detroit), poses with her first deer. She shot her deer at Brother Bo Morley’s house, Local 25.

Fred Christensen, a proud member of Local 97 (Vancouver, British Columbia), caught a 20 lb. spring salmon on the Vedder River, one hour and fifteen minutes from downtown Vancouver.

A 40 lb. cod was caught by Joe and Joey Jr. Cooper, son and grandson of Joe Cooper Sr., Local 764 (St. John’s, Newfoundland).

Dan Dunlop with a 31 lb. spring salmon caught on the Skeena River in Terrace, B.C., Canada. Dan is a 19-year member of Local 97 (Vancouver, British Columbia).

Retired ironworker Tom Clark, Local 373 (Perth Amboy, N.J.), caught this 22” redfish wading in Matlacha Pass in Southwest Florida. Tom was elected in 2006 as supervisor on the Lee County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Jeff Coffey, member of Local 290 (Dayton, Ohio), is an avid bow hunter. He harvested an 11-point record book buck on October 18, 2008 in Auglaize County, Ohio. The rack had a gross score of 174 5/8”. Estimated live weight was between 280 and 300 lbs. and actual field dress weight was 235 lbs.

Charlie DuBois, grandson of Kenneth Rice, who is a retired ironworker after 50 years from Local 40 (New York) and 361 (Brooklyn, N.Y.), shot his first deer on the second day of the New York state season on November 16, 2008 with a 308 rifle.

Ironworker Christopher Perrillo’s, Local 417 (Newburgh, N.Y.), son Michael got his first six-pointer.
Josh Allen, son of Fred Allen and grandson of Fred Allen Sr., Local 580 (New York), caught a 21 in. smallmouth bass in Clinton Reservoir.

During the 2008 season, Local 75 (Phoenix, Ariz.) ironworker George Facista, a 30-year member, was able to bag a 6 X 6 bull elk near Flagstaff, Arizona.

Retired Local 1 (Chicago) ironworker Joseph Pozzi caught a large roosterfish off the coast of Quepos, Costa Rica.

Wes Whiting, Local 55 (Toledo, Ohio), shot a nine pointer, scored 145", and weighed 245 lbs. buck-eye big buck.

Wesley Whiting II, age nine, son of Wes Whiting, Local 55 (Toledo, Ohio), got his first buck, a seven pointer, in Ohio.

Calvin Holloway of Glovertown out of Local 764 (St. John’s, Newfoundland) catches his limit of sea trout in Northwest Brook, Newfoundland.

From Local 21 (Omaha, Neb.), Jacob Andersen, 4th year apprentice, Justin Daugherty, 4th year apprentice, and Victor Brown, 4th year apprentice shot some turkeys.

Bernie Sampsel shot an 8-point buck in Coshocton County. The buck scored a 145, but he has also shot several others—one scored a 177 and one was non-typical. Bernie is a proud 50-year member of Local 550 (Canton, Ohio).

Murdock “Bud” McKinnon, 82 years old, retired welder from Local 786 (Sudbury, Ontario), is still going strong, hunting moose with his son and son-in-law.
Michael Finch and his dad Raymond Finch, both members of Local 97 (Vancouver, British Columbia), are proud of their buffalo hunt in December 2008.

Retired member Richard Stokke of Local 383 (Madison, Wisc.) practiced catch and release. Richard was rolling a night crawler when he hooked a 9 lb., 30 inch walleye on a Central Wisconsin lake.

Mike Kinney, Local 60 (Syracuse, N.Y.) bagged an 8-pt. buck with a 17 ¾ in. spread and weighing 174 lbs. behind his house in Oswego, N.Y.

Kenny McCabe, journeyman ironworker from Local 55 (Toledo, Ohio) has been living in Florida since 1996, after retiring in 1993, hooked a 5’1” sandbar shark at Barefoot Bay in Sebastian, Florida. Kenny caught the shark on a 12-lb. test line and released it back into the bay.

Grandson of Scotty Lane, Local 263 (Dallas/Ft. Worth, Tex.), Trevor Lane bagged a 20-pointer while hunting.

Clinton Beaty and his wife caught two snook across the canal in the back of their home. Clinton is a retired member of Local 340 (Battle Creek, Mich.) and comes from a long line of ironworkers.

Ironworkers Hunt and Fish

Aaron Bernal, age 11, son of Jason Bernal, Local 118 (Sacramento, Ca.), caught a delta sturgeon, then cooked it and shared it with the ironworkers.

Kyle App, son of David App, Local 22 (Indianapolis, Ind.), grandson of Bud App, Local 22, shot a 27-lb. turkey on the fourth day of the season on property owned by family for four generations.

Joe Long Jr., Local 3 (Pittsburgh), went to Vermilion Bay, Ontario, and shot a 220-lb. black bear with a bow.
Ironworkers Hunt and Fish

Gary Hendricks, Local 197 (New York), is proud of his son Brandon, age 15, who killed two bucks.

Max Sanchez, retired with 40 plus years from Local 27 (Salt Lake City), shot a 6 x 6 bull elk on his 64th birthday. Max had help from his nephew Rick Sanchez, a union lineman for IBEW Local 57.

Scott Battles, Local 63 (Chicago), caught a 36”, 20 ½ lb. flathead catfish.

Jim Horch, Local 40 (New York) and Greg Waters, Local 6 (Buffalo, N.Y.), caught a few nice amberjacks while in Cancun.

Keven Flowers, age 13, grandson of Louie Flowers, retired member of Local 397 (Tampa, Fla.), nephew of Louie Flowers Jr. and Jimmy Flowers, Local 808 (Orlando, Fla.), is with his first wild boar.

James “Snake” Thomas, retired Local 68 (Trenton, N.J.) member, displays his 114-lb. halibut caught aboard the M.V.3-Bears, out of Kodiak. Along with the halibut, James caught a 40-lb. ling cod, and 24-lb. king salmon. Jim and his friends limited out every day with halibut, ling cod, and king salmon.

John Ward, Local 416 (Los Angeles), took some time off of work to do a little fishing off the coast of San Diego and caught two 35-lb. yellow fin tuna.

Robert Lindsay, retired Local 416 (Los Angeles) member, caught many jack crevalle, all weighing about 20-lbs. at Santa Rosalia, Baja.

Marco Doiron of Local 842 (St. John, New Brunswick) shot his first moose while hunting with three other members of Local 842—Gaetan Leger, Romeo Cormier, and Normand Doiron, Marco’s father.

Gary Hendricks, Local 197 (New York), is proud of his son Brandon, age 15, who killed two bucks.
Ironworkers Hunt and Fish

Retired member of Local 9 (Niagara Falls, N.Y.), Jerry Ishman was hunting near the Pennsylvania line below Wells-ville, N.Y., when a bear came within 40 yards. Jerry shot the 310-lb. bear and is proud of his accomplishment.

Kevin Delaney, Local 361 (Brooklyn, N.Y.), and his wife Doreen, caught a 95-lb. sailfish and 45-lb. mahi mahi while fishing aboard Cabo Magic in Mexico.

Don Simpson, Local 495 (Albuquerque), bagged a Barbary sheep in Tinnie, New Mexico at 120 yard shot.

Adam Gale, son of retired Local 75 (Phoenix) member Steve Gale, is a proud turkey bow hunter.

Jamie Morrow, Local 86 (Seattle, Wash.), earned second place at the Anacortes Fishing Derby. He won a cash prize of $4000 and missed the first place prize by less than one pound.

Doug Merithew, retired Local 508 (Detroit) member, shows a 14-lb. turkey taken in Lake County, Michigan.

Jerry Atzinger’s, Local 70 (Louisville, Ky.), son Blake, age 16, is with his first deer. Blake is on the honor roll at school and plays varsity baseball and football.
Lifetime Honorary members are published in the magazine according to the application approval date. Members previously classified as Old Age or Disability Pensioners that were converted to Lifetime Honorary membership effective January 1, 2007 will not be reprinted in the magazine.

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If you’re having trouble making ends meet in this economy, Union SAFE may be able to help. We offer valuable benefits for members who participate in Union Plus programs including Union Plus Credit Card, Mortgage and Union Secure Insurance and who are facing economic hardship.

To find out how Union SAFE may be able to help, visit: www.UnionPlus.org/UnionSAFE.
APPROVED DEATH CLAIMS FOR APRIL 2009

**In Memorium**

**General Organizer Edmund (Eddie) Lojko Passes Away**

Dec. 18, 2008

The officers of the Ironworkers International Union, in the name of the Deceased and his family, announce the passing of the General Organizer Edmund J. Lojko.

**Dec. 18, 2008**

On December 18, 2008, the General Organizer, Edmund J. Lojko, passed away. He was a long-time member of the International Union and a dedicated leader in the labor movement. He was a respected figure in the ironworkers' community and a beloved mentor to many.

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From our founding in 1896 into the 21st Century, this revised, complete account of the Iron Workers International and its members is a must for every ironworker. It is over 350 pages in full color, with over 1,000 photos, illustrations and historical memorabilia from the last 110 years of our great union. A must for every Ironworker's family library, they make great gifts for apprentices, retirees and anyone with an interest in our proud history and how we came to be what we are today.

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Local 808 Members at the Kennedy Space Center