

INSIDE: Schedule of Classes



Training News

A quarterly newsletter from the Northern California Laborers' Training Center Issue No. 53 • Spring 2005

Ceremony honors graduating apprentices

The largest graduating class in the history of the Northern California Apprenticeship Program was honored recently at a festive ceremony in San Ramon, where apprentices were presented with certificates of completion and a commemorative belt buckle as family and friends cheered.

The graduation ceremony held January 29 marked the passage from apprentice to journeyman Laborer for 48 LIUNA members from all across Northern California. Those who attended the ceremony and luncheon were praised by dignitaries as representing the future of the Laborers' Union.

On hand to congratulate the graduates was José Moreno, Business Manager of the Northern California District Council of Laborers and Chairman of the Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee.

Moreno commended the graduates for their hard work and dedication, and he said that a strong Apprenticeship Program is important for the future success of the Union.

Ron Myers, representing the Laborers' International Union, also wished the new journeymen well and pledged that the Union would be there for them throughout their careers. Local 185 Field Representative Juan McKnight gave the ceremony's invocation.

The keynote speaker was Apprenticeship Program graduate Kenneth Judice, who challenged all past, present and future apprentices to recognize the LIUNA opportunity and take full advantage of it.

Senior Instructor Jerome Williams, who was a mentor to many Apprentices, received a standing ovation when he took to the microphone. He reminded the new journeymen that it is their duty to help fellow Union brothers and sisters, including any future Apprentices they may encounter on the jobsite.



Photo by Bobby Peugh

José Moreno, Business Manager, Northern California District Council of Laborers and Chairman of the Joint Apprenticeship Training Committee (center, front) joins Apprenticeship Program graduates and others at a ceremony held at the San Ramon campus.

Apprenticeship Director Jeff Armstrong, who noted that graduating from an apprenticeship program is often referred to as “the other degree,” praised the graduates for successfully navigating the “pathway to success,” which is the motto of the program.

“Graduating from the Apprenticeship Program is a big deal,” Armstrong said. “The work is hard, the hours are long, and the sacrifices are many. Congratulations to all of the graduates. We at the Northern California Laborers' Joint Apprenticeship Program wish you continued success as our newest journeymen.” ■

Partnership leads to directional drilling training

A partnership between the Laborers' Training Center, Local 185 and a signatory contractor, Royal Electric, has resulted in new training on directional drilling being offered to LIUNA members in Northern California.

The specialized training in "trenchless technology" involves learning the safe operation of directional drilling equipment, the very complex and expensive machinery used to install pipe by boring underground without digging a trench.

In a partnership initiated by Local 185's Business Manager Doyle Radford, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Laborers' Training & Retraining Trust Fund, the Training Center and Royal Electric joined forces to conduct the training at the newly minted campus in West Sacramento.

Over four weekends, a dozen Laborers learned the safe operation of the machinery, which includes a rig that bores underground and runs sections of pipe that can then support utility, sewer and telephone lines. *See Partnership, Page 5*



Photo by Bobby Peugh

Instructors inspect directional drilling equipment before a demonstration.

TERENCE J. O'SULLIVAN LABORERS' TRAINING CENTER Schedule of Courses, SAN RAMON CAMPUS (Horario de Clases) April 4 through July 1, 2005

COURSES	DATES	LENGTH	PREREQUISITE
APPRENTICESHIP			
Apprenticeship Initial	April 4 - April 22 April 25 - May 13 May 9 - May 27 June 13 - July 1	3 Weeks	Registered Apprentices
Apprenticeship Follow-up	April 4 - April 15 April 25 - May 6	2 Weeks	Registered Apprentices
CONSTRUCTION			
Fundamentals of Construction	April 4 - April 15 June 20 - July 1	2 Weeks	N/A
Plaster Tender/Hod Carrier	April 25 - May 13	3 Weeks	N/A
Pipe Laying Techniques	May 2 - May 13	2 Weeks	N/A
Concrete Techniques	May 16 - May 27	2 Weeks	N/A
Advanced Pipe Laying Techniques	May 30 - June 3	1 Week	Experience or completion of Pipe Laying Class
Shotcrete Techniques	June 13 - June 24	2 Weeks	N/A
Asphalt Paving Techniques	June 20 - July 1	2 Weeks	N/A

TERENCE J. O'SULLIVAN LABORERS' TRAINING CENTER
Schedule of Courses, SAN RAMON CAMPUS (Horario de Clases)
April 4 through July 1, 2005

COURSES	DATES	LENGTH	PREREQUISITE
WELDING			
MIG & TIG Welding Orientation	May 9 - May 20	2 Weeks	1000 hours worked
Basic Arc Welding	May 23 - July 1	6 Weeks	1000 hours worked
Advanced Arc Welding	May 23 - July 1	6 Weeks	2000 hours worked; completion of Basic Welding Class
Oxy Torch Cutting	April 14, April 21, May 18 June 3	1 Day Each	N/A
SPECIAL COURSES			
Refinery Safety (BATC)	April 4, May 2, May 23, June 27	1 Day Each	N/A
Fire Watch Safety	April 6, May 4, May 18 May 25, June 29	1 Day Each	N/A
Forklift Orientation	May 30 - June 3	1 Week	N/A
Forklift Certification (Intermediate)	April 6 - April 8 May 4 - May 6 (Spanish)	3 Days Each	Experience Recommended
Forklift Certification (Advanced)	April 12, April 18 May 19, June 2, June 23	1 Day Each	Experience Required
Scaffold User	April 11	1 Day	N/A
Blueprint Reading	April 18 - April 19	2 Days	N/A
Skid-Steer Loader (Bobcat) (Intermediate)	April 20 - April 22 May 30 - June 1	3 Days Each	Experience Recommended
Skid-Steer Loader (Bobcat) (Advanced)	April 13, May 20 June 1, June 22	1 Day Each	Experience Required
Skid-Steer Loader (Bobcat)	May 23 - May 27	1 Week	Beginner
Flagging Certification	April 15, April 22 (English) April 29 (English) June 1 (Spanish)	1 Day Each	N/A
Aerial Work Platform	April 21 - April 22	2 Days	N/A
Concrete Coring & Saw Cutting	April 21 - April 22 June 1 - June 2	2 Days Each	N/A
First Aid/CPR	April 19, May 16 May 30, June 30	1 Day Each	N/A
Traffic Control	April 20, May 17, May 31 June 22	1 Day Each	N/A

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Schedule of Courses, SAN RAMON CAMPUS (Horario de Clases)
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COURSES	DATES	LENGTH	PREREQUISITE
SPECIAL COURSES continued			
Bilingual Construction Communication	April 25 - April 26 April 27 - April 28 May 2 - May 3 May 16 - May 17 May 30 - May 31 June 20 - June 21 June 30 - July 1	2 Days Each	N/A
Basic Air Track Drilling Orientation	May 9 - May 13	1 Week	N/A
Air Track Drilling	May 16 - June 3	3 Weeks	Completion of one-week Orientation
Mine Safety & First Aid/CPR	May 23 - May 27	1 Week	N/A
OSHA 10-Hour Orientation	May 30 - May 31 June 20 - June 21	2 Days Each	N/A
Trenchless Renovation & Remote Camera Techniques	June 13 - June 17	1 Week	Completion of Pipe Laying Techniques
Rigging & Signaling	June 27 - July 1	1 Week	N/A
ENVIRONMENTAL			
Hazardous Waste Removal	April 4 - April 8 June 13 - June 17	1 Week	200 hours worked
Mold Remediation	April 14 - April 15	2 Days	N/A
Hazardous Waste Re-Certification	April 11, May 12, May 18 June 22 & June 29	1 Day Each	Valid Certificate
Asbestos Worker Certification (Spanish/Español)	April 18 - April 22	1 Week	N/A
Asbestos Worker Certification (English)	May 16 - May 20	1 Week	N/A
Asbestos Re-Certification (English)	April 13	1 Day	Valid Certificate
Lead Worker Initial (English)	May 9 - May 11	3 Days	N/A
Lead Worker Initial (Spanish)	June 13 - June 16	4 Days	N/A
Lead Re-Certification (Spanish)	April 12	1 Day	Valid Certificate
Lead Re-Certification (English)	May 13	1 Day	Valid Certificate

NOTE: Courses of one week or more in length require Drug Testing.

► **Partnership**, *From Page 2*

Part of the training also includes using underground locator devices to hunt for obstacles prior to commencing drilling. A substantial portion of the class is devoted to “hands-on” operation of the equipment. Safety and the proper use of personal protective gear is also covered.

“This new technology is getting a lot of attention in the construction industry, and we want to make sure we have qualified workers who can operate this equipment safely when called upon,” Radford said.

Allen Wells, a Royal Electric Superintendent and member of Local 185, said his company is currently running eight rigs in Northern California and foresees more work in the future as more contractors become aware of the benefits of the technology.

He said his company is looking for people who have experience in utilities and have good hand-eye coordination.

Modern directional drilling equipment features sophisticated electronics, automated hydraulic pipe-loaders and, depending upon manufacturer and model, the ability for operators to walk alongside the units while driving, loading and unloading. They can drill holes hundreds of feet underground without the need for trenches, which can be an attractive option for construction in urban areas.

Wells says he uses the technology to install water, electric, sewer, gas, telephone, and cable TV lines throughout Northern California.

“Now, more and more contractors are looking at their options when they are installing utilities,” Wells says. “In many cases it can be more cost effective to bore or tunnel than to trench.” ■



Photo by Bobby Peugh

Union members learned the safe operation of directional drilling equipment at West Sacramento campus.

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TERENCE J. O'SULLIVAN LABORERS' TRAINING CENTER
Schedule of Courses, WEST SACRAMENTO CAMPUS (Horario de Clases)
April 4 through July 1, 2005

COURSES	DATES	LENGTH	PREREQUISITE
APPRENTICESHIP			
Apprenticeship Initial	April 11 - April 29 May 23 - June 10	3 Weeks	Registered Apprentices
CONSTRUCTION			
Asphalt Paving Techniques	April 25 - May 6	2 Weeks	N/A
Concrete Techniques	May 9 - May 20	2 Weeks	N/A
SPECIAL COURSES			
10-Hour OSHA Orientation	April 4 - April 5 May 9 - May 10	2 Days Each	N/A
Traffic Control	April 6, June 29 May 11 - May 12 (5:00 p.m. start)	1 Day Each 2 Evenings	N/A
First Aid/CPR	April 7 May 9 - May 10 (5:00 p.m. start) June 1 June 28	1 Day 2 Evenings 1 Day Each	N/A N/A N/A
Flagger Certification	April 8 May 13 (5:00 p.m. start) June 3, July 1	1 Day Each	N/A
Refinery Safety (BATC)	April 11, May 30, June 13	1 Day Each	N/A
Fire Watch Safety	April 13, June 1, June 15	1 Day Each	N/A
Bilingual Construction Communication	May 19 - May 20 June 2 - June 3 June 23 - June 24 June 27 - June 28	2 Days Each	N/A
Skid Steer Loader (Bobcat) Orientation (Intermediate)	May 16 - May 18 June 22 - June 24	3 Days Each	Experience Recommended
Skid Steer Loader (Advanced)	May 31	1 Day	Experience Required
Forklift Certification (Intermediate)	May 19 - May 20	2 Days	Experience Recommended
Forklift Recertification	May 30, June 27	1 Day Each	Experience Required
Forklift Certification (Intermediate)	June 29 - July 1	3 Days	Experience Recommended
Torch Cutting	June 2, June 30	1 Day Each	N/A
Blueprint Reading	June 20 - June 21	2 Days	N/A

TERENCE J. O'SULLIVAN LABORERS' TRAINING CENTER
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COURSES	DATES	LENGTH	PREREQUISITE
SPECIAL COURSES continued			
Mine Safety & First Aid/CPR	June 20 - June 24	1 Week	N/A
Aerial Work Platform	June 27 - June 28	2 Days	N/A
ENVIRONMENTAL			
Hazardous Waste Recertification	May 11 May 23	1 Day Each	Valid Certificate
Hazardous Waste Removal	May 23 - May 27	1 Week	200 hours worked
Lead Worker Recertification (Spanish)	May 24	1 Day	Valid Certificate
Lead Worker Recertification (English)	May 12 May 26	1 Day Each	Valid Certificate
Asbestos Worker Recertification (English)	May 13 May 25	1 Day Each	Valid Certificate
Asbestos Worker Recertification (Spanish)	May 27	1 Day	Valid Certificate

IMPORTANT REMINDER: All trainees/apprentices are expected to be on time for all courses and to be suitably attired with work clothing and work boots. NO shorts, tank tops, or tennis shoes will be allowed in class or in the dining area. NO head gear will be allowed in the dining room. **RECORDATORIO IMPORTANTE:** Se les requiere a todos los estudiantes y aprendices el llegar a tiempo a todos los cursos y venir vestidos apropiadamente con ropa y botas de trabajo. Pantalones cortos, camisetas sin manga, o zapatos de tenis no serán permitidos en ninguna de las clases o en el comedor. No es permitido entrar al comedor con sombrero. ■

Directions to the West Sacramento Training Center:

Take the HARBOR BOULEVARD exit off U.S. 50/Business 80 towards Harbor Boulevard/Port of Sacramento. Continue on Harbor Boulevard for approximately 1/2 mile. At the Industrial Boulevard intersection at the entrance to the Port, make a right and continue a half mile on Industrial. The entrance to the Laborers' Training Center is on your left at a yellow pole gate. Follow the signs to the Administration Building.

West Sacramento Training Center address is:
 2901 Industrial Boulevard
 West Sacramento, CA 95691-3419

West Sacramento Training Center: (916) 375-0191
 FAX is (916) 375-0227
 E-mail: training@norcalaborers.org

Directions to the San Ramon Training Center:

Take the ALCOSTA BOULEVARD WEST exit off Highway 680. After you cross the intersection at San Ramon Valley Boulevard, the road changes to Westside Drive. Stay in the straight-ahead lane and look on your left for the large sign and gate leading to the Training Center. Proceed up the hill to the Administration building (on the left).

San Ramon Training Center address is:
 1001 Westside Drive
 San Ramon, California 94583-4098

San Ramon Training Center: (925) 828-2513
 FAX is (925) 828-6142
 E-mail: training@norcalaborers.org



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Training News

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New instructor brings extensive safety background to campus



Nathan Whittom

Nathan Whittom's passion is safety. The trainer, consultant and former safety officer recently joined the staff of the Laborers' Training Center as an instructor, and he has already made his mark in reviewing and updating the Training Center's safety curriculum.

"Pro-active management is the key to safety," Whittom says. "The more you know, the better prepared you'll be for the future."

Whittom brings more than 20 years experience as an instructor in the area of occupational safety and environmental regulations. He holds a degree in Applied Science Environmental Technology from Pima Community College in Tucson, Arizona, and has been certified to teach numerous disciplines, including the handling of hazardous waste, asbestos and OSHA general industry safety orders.

His previous experience includes working as a safety officer, refinery safety instructor, project manager, material technician, industrial firefighter and warehouseman. He also holds a membership in the American Society of Safety Engineers. He is a member of Laborers' Local 324.

Whittom will be teaching environmental remediation and safety courses, as well as equipment operations, and he is working with other instructors and Training Director Vic Macias to review and update curricula. ■