



STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR AND INDUSTRIES

Office of Apprenticeship - (360) 902-5320

PO Box 44530, Olympia, Washington 98504-4530

Web site: <http://www.lni.wa.gov/TradesLicensing/Apprenticeship/>

**SUBJECT: Quarterly Report (April - June, 2009)**

DATE: July 17, 2009

TO: Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council Members  
Washington State Apprenticeship Training Directors/Coordinators  
Interested Apprenticeship Stakeholders

FROM: Elizabeth E. Smith, Apprenticeship Program Manager

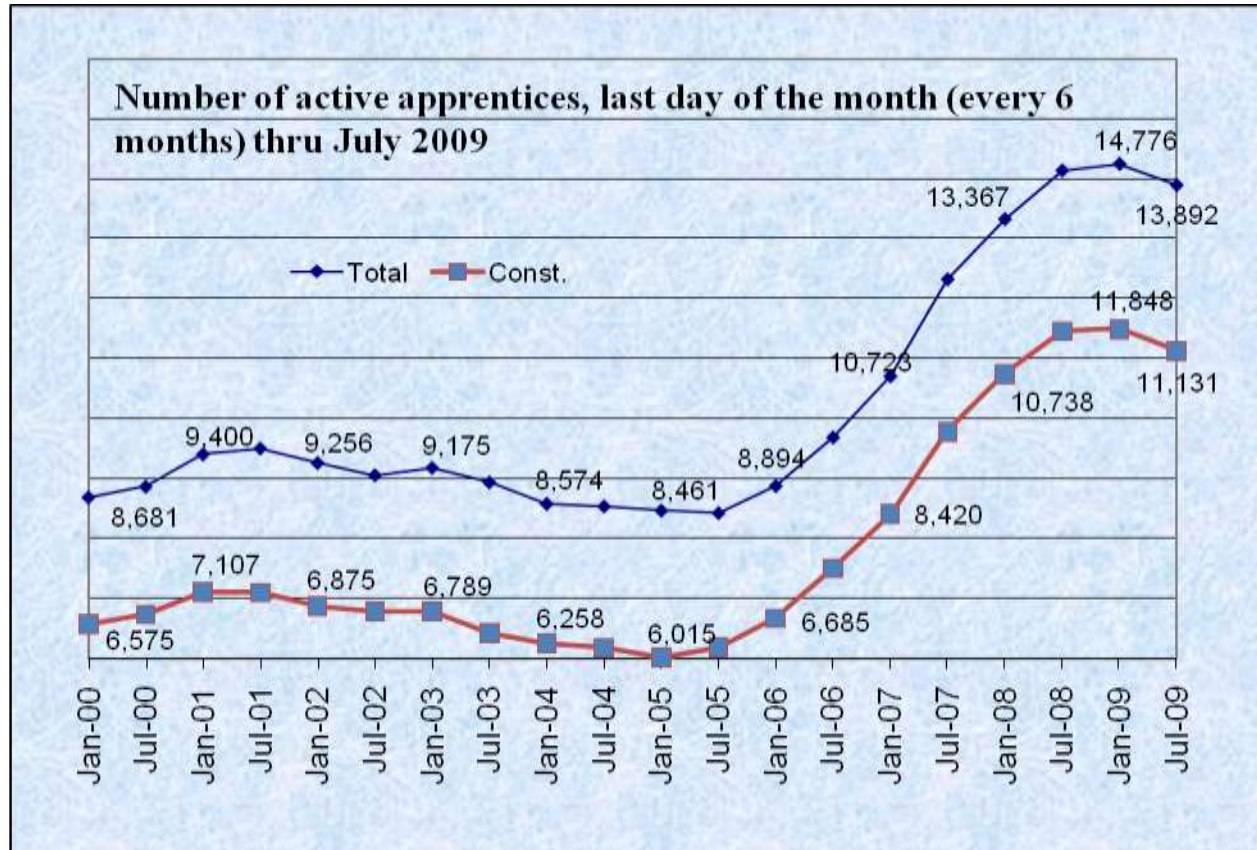
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On behalf of Labor and Industries, Office of Apprenticeship staff, regional field consultants and contributing stakeholders, I present the April – June 2009 report on registered apprenticeship activity in the state of Washington.

The Department wishes to thank all those who contributed to this report and recognize all stakeholders whose work continues to drive innovations in apprenticeship education, workforce development and outreach efforts.

## Apprenticeship by the Numbers

There were **17,531** active apprentices for the 12-month time period ending June 30, 2009 of which **1,764** were women and **4,147** were minority. Over the last quarter (April – June 2009) there were **14,475** active apprentices.



### Apprentice Activity (April – June 2009):

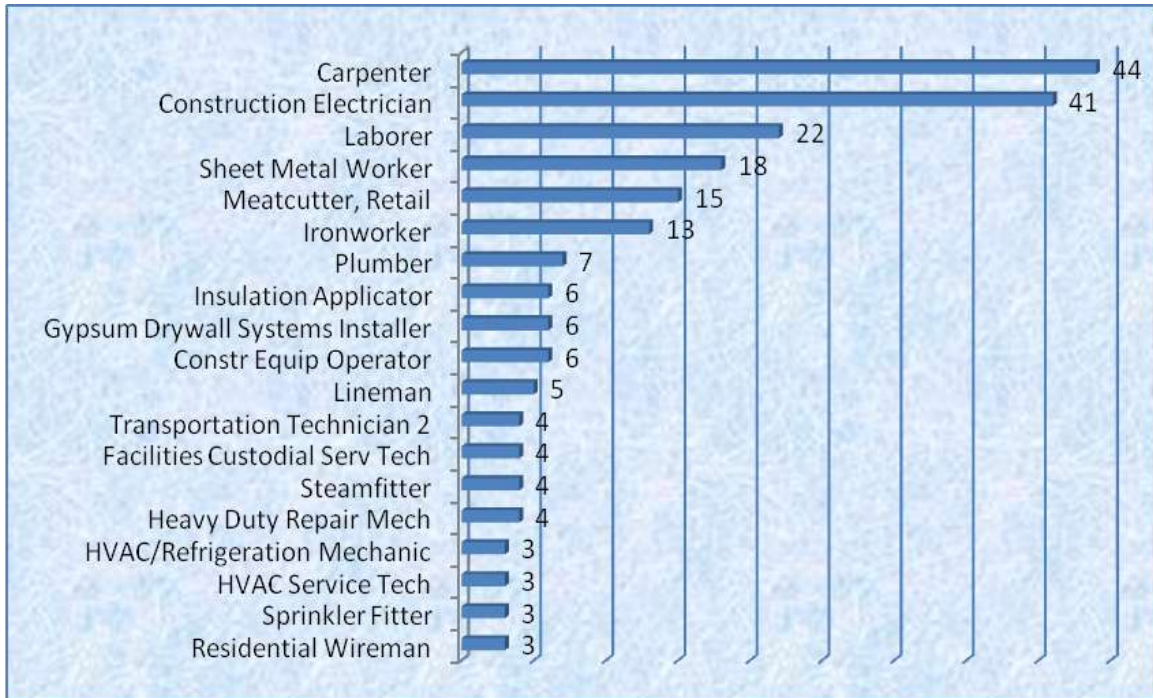
- **14,475** active apprentices for the time period
- **230** individuals were issued completion certificates
- **227** individuals were cancelled
- **436** individuals were registered as apprentices

### Minority, Female and Veteran Participation (April – June 2009):

- **3,258** active minority apprentices (22.5%)
- **1,502** active female apprentices (10.4%)
- **1,436** active veteran apprentices (9.9%)

## Journey Level Certificates Issued by Occupation: April 1 - June 30, 2009

(Note: Does not include occupations with < 3 Graduates)



## Highlights from the April 2009 Council Meeting

### PROPOSED COMMITTEES:

#### AREVA NP, Inc.

Industrial Instrument Technician	SOC: 49-2094.00	8,100 hours
Industrial Maintenance Electrician	SOC: 49-2094.00	7,200 hours
Industrial Pipefitter	SOC: 49-9041.00	7,200 hours
Industrial Millwright	SOC: 49-9044.00	7,200 hours

### NEW STANDARDS:

#### KVA Electric, Inc. Apprenticeship Committee

Substation Technician	SOC: 49-2095.00	6,000 Hours
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#### Washington Association of Building Officials

Code Official (Building Code Inspector)	SOC: 47-4011.00	6,000 Hours
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#### Wyser Construction, Inc.

Landscape Technician	SOC: 37-3011.00	4000 Hours
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## Quarterly News and Events

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### **Apprenticeship Registration and Tracking System Upgrade Completed**

*Source: Michael Thurman, Apprenticeship Consultant, WA Dept. of Labor & Industries*

On June 30, 2009, our current 2-year project to update ARTS came to a close. The primary focus of this project was to update ARTS so that our Registered Programs could have direct, secure, access to the data on their program and their apprentices. While this goal has been accomplished we are still working to make improvements to the system and fix items that we may have overlooked.

Garth Johnson (Project Manager, pictured right) and Armin Kabir (Programmer, pictured left) did an outstanding job of accomplishing the project's primary goal and they went beyond that goal and were able to convert the entire system over to the new format, thus allowing us to only have to use one version of the system instead of two versions. They were also very successful in re-integrating the ARTS reports back into the regular ARTS database.



Armin was an integral part of the project to update the Apprenticeship Registration and Tracking System (ARTS) to allow Registered Apprenticeship Programs secure access to the ARTS Database. He quickly gained an understanding of the system and produced prototype menus within a few weeks of the project start date. His expertise and dedication allowed for the project to be expanded to include an update of the complete system. He worked with many varied customers as part of this project and was able to incorporate almost all suggested changes.

Garth was the Project Manager overseeing and coordinating the updating of the Apprenticeship Registration and Tracking System (ARTS) to allow Registered Apprenticeship Programs secure access to the ARTS Database. He quickly gained an understanding of the system, and his leadership and take charge attitude created a very effective working environment. This directly influenced the overall work which allowed for the project to be expanded to include an update of the complete system. He worked with many varied customers as part of this project and was able to incorporate almost all suggested changes.

On March 3rd, 2008, the new software was brought on-line. For about the next month and half, the database was tested by L&I Apprenticeship personnel to work through any problems prior to the first program being given access to the database. On approximately April 24th, we entered the first Registered Apprenticeship program into the ARTS Database. Currently, we have 81 unique users signed up as "external authorized reporter" users representing 63 unique programs. This is about 25% of our currently registered programs.

Programs have been using all of the areas in the ARTS database such as:

- Registering apprentices
- On the Job Training Hours reporting
- RSI Hours reporting
- Change Apprentice Status
- Update Apprentice Step
- Training Agent record update
- Submitting minutes electronically



I would like to express my thanks to all the programs which over the last 2 years have come to our briefings and training sessions on their own time. Without their support and guidance we would not be where we are today. We are continuing to work on the ARTS database and with our Registered Programs to make changes as needed. We will be working closely with programs in the future to help them through process of learning the system, especially in the area of batch processing of RSI and OJT hours.

We are also still working on a process for certain special users to gain additional access to the ARTS system to allow for better identification of apprentices and apprenticeship related hours. If you (a Registered Apprenticeship Program) are interested in signing up for electronic access to ARTS, please contact Michael Thurman, 360-902-5324, or email [thum235@lni.wa.gov](mailto:thum235@lni.wa.gov).

## **Sheet Metal Students Help Lions Club Refurbish Old Newspaper Dispensers**

*Source: Steve MacKay, Sheet Metal Technology Instructor, Bates Technical College*

A [KOMO TV news story](#) once wondered what fate the old Seattle P-I newspaper dispenser stands held following the demise of the printed Seattle P-I newspaper in March. “I think they should turn it into a coke machine,” said one person interviewed. Another quipped, “Maybe Starbucks can find a way of selling coffee out of them.”

Thankfully, about 300 of the old newspaper dispensers were salvaged by the Lakewood Lions Club and under an agreement with Bates, are now being refitted by students in Sheet Metal Technology to serve as donation drop off boxes for eyeglasses, cell phones and hearing aids.

“It’s a win-win situation,” says John Anderson, past president of Lakewood’s First Lions Club. “In turn, the Lakewood Lion’s Club is offering two \$500 scholarships annually to students in Sheet Metal Technology through the college’s foundation. These new donation boxes are great way for us to get into our community and help those in need. We’re thankful to Steve and his students for helping us do that.” “Fortunately, students work on the boxes as work-study students, after class, so they aren’t missing vital instruction and classroom time,” says sheet metal technology instructor Steve MacKay.

The Lions Club will place the newly refurbished donation boxes in high-traffic areas, such as Sam’s Club, Costco, cellular phone stores, and Wal-Mart. “We collect between 600-1,000 eyeglasses each year for recycling,” says Anderson. “Students Clark Burbridge and Slava Cosoi have already completed about 44 boxes, taking about 5 hours to complete one dispenser,” says MacKay. “This project is valuable to our students because it helps them learn how to keep to a production schedule and work with outside organizations. It’s great for the Lion’s Club, because these students are saving them about \$80-\$100 per hour of labor.”



# Partnership / Articulation Agreement: Western Washington Sheet Metal JATC and Bates Technical College

*Source: Steve MacKay, Sheet Metal Technology Instructor, Bates Technical College*

This Partnership / Articulation Agreement provides for the crediting of apprenticeship time in the Western Washington Sheet Metal JATC for credits earned in the Sheet Metal Technology program at Bates Technical College.

Whereas the Sheet Metal Production Support certificate of training program at Bates Technical College is a 44 credit program with no 90 level general education requirements. The Sheet Metal Technician certificate of competency program is an 88 credit program, with specific 90 level general education completion requirements.

Whereas the Sheet Metal Technology certificate of competency program is a 125 credit program with specific 90 level general education completion requirements. The Sheet Metal Technology Associate of Technology Degree program is a 131 credit program with specific 100 level general education completion requirements.

Whereas Bates Technical College, being competency-based, awards credits only upon a student's demonstration of competency at pre-determined standards.

Whereas the competencies and standards of performance of the Bates Technical College Sheet Metal Technology program are validated annually by the Bates Technical College's Sheet Metal Technology Advisory Committee.

Whereas the Western Washington Sheet Metal JATC regularly accepts into its apprenticeship training programs students for their preparation for the sheet metal profession.

The Western Washington Sheet Metal JATC, upon accepting into its training program former Bates Technical College Sheet Metal students, will award time for training according to the following guidelines:

- Students earning a Certificate of Training in Sheet Metal Production Support will be indentured and directly entered on the JATC out of work list awaiting employment with no apprenticeship tenure.
- Students earning a Certificate of Competency as a Sheet Metal Technician will be indentured and directly entered on the JATC out of work list awaiting employment with six months apprenticeship tenure.
- Students earning a Certificate of Competency in Sheet Metal Technology will be credited with one year of apprenticeship tenure, indentured and directly entered on the JATC out of work list awaiting employment.
- Students earning an Associate of Technology Degree in Sheet Metal Technology will be credited with eighteen months of apprenticeship tenure, indentured and directly entered on the JATC out of work list awaiting employment.

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Western Washington SM JATC Administrative Coordinator

Date

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Executive Vice President of Instruction, Bates Technical College

Date

## **First Annual Try-A-Trade With Technology Career Fair, Satsop Development Park**

*Source: Matt Gordon WIRED Construction Coordinator*

The weather broke on May 1st into a clear and sunny day, and so did a number of futures for students from 14 different high schools in the Pac Mountain Region. Forty-three volunteers were on hand at the first annual Try-A-Trade with Technology Career Fair to show 550 students the innovative career opportunities that the Trades and Green Technology could offer them. The gathering at Satsop was exciting and fast paced thanks to the many attractive experiences available for students at the site.

The Northwest Laborers Training site at Satsop hosted a number of trades and businesses from the five-county region of Mason, Thurston, Grays Harbor, Lewis, and Pacific. Lakeside Industries made a huge presence with a brand new paver, dump truck, and backhoe, Olympia Salvage brought Green Technology techniques for de-construction, while Snell Crane and the Operating Engineers Regional Training Program kept things flying high on their lifts and cranes. The International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 77 brought a bucket truck, and Grays Harbor Community College brought their CDL semi. The Seattle area Plumbing and Pipefitting JATC really showed how they are on top of the green economy in a sustainable environment. Their HVAC and water works stations incorporated geothermal, solar, wind, and even tidal technologies. Northwest Infrared calculated the heat signature of students, and the Laborers had students cut and core concrete, compact sites, and operate skid steers, man lifts, and backhoes.

The next day, May 2nd, hosted a number of parents and students from two school districts who were unable to attend on Friday. "The only thing you cannot do at the Satsop site is what you have not thought of," says the WIRED Construction Coordinator for the Regional Education and Training Center (RETC). "We have the training facility; lets use it," he added.

RETC has grown into a facility that provides fast, sustainable training for our region's workforce. We are committed to providing career opportunities right now, as well as leading training in the technology of tomorrow. The Try-A-Trade with Technology event was the first in a long series of hands-on experiences for new workers. And if one of the signs of a successful event is a school bus honking its horn for students to leave at the end of the day and no one showing up, then we had a great one!

Thanks to everyone for helping to "build one life at a time." A DVD of the event will be available by May 25, 2009.



## **CITC Builds a Green Curriculum: The vocational school for construction workers is teaching its students the new three R's: reduce, reuse and recycle.**

*Source: By MARC STILES, Daily Journal of Commerce, Journal Staff Reporter*

WITH GREEN BUILDING de rigueur, especially in the Puget Sound region, the Construction Industry Training Council of Washington is making environmental sustainability a foundation of its curriculum.

The council, a private, nonprofit vocational school for construction workers in seven trades ranging from carpentry to heavy-equipment operation, has begun teaching a 15-hour course entitled "Your Role in the Green Environment." During the 2009 winter quarter, 650 craft training students received the training from certified instructors as part of their regular class hours. Going forward, the course will be taught to all first-year students.

Dave Perrin, the council's vice president of education services, said the course allows students to immediately apply the three R's both on the job and at home. In this case, the three R's stand for reduce, reuse and recycle. "It's pretty fundamental," said Perrin, who explained that the course provides basic instruction in the green environment, green construction practices and green building rating systems.

The council began teaching the course at the urging of construction industry employers.

"Pressure came down from employers, who said, 'We need your help,'" Perrin said.

This is the result of the industry feeling pressure from public- and private-sector clients. More and more government agencies are requiring builders to institute green practices in construction projects. Washington is the first state in the nation to require publicly funded buildings to be built to green standards, and cities and counties have incorporated similar standards.

The private sector is following close behind. By 2008, Washington had more than 500 certified or registered LEED buildings and more than 20,000 Built Green homes.

Perrin said something more basic than market forces played into the council's decision to teach the course. Council leaders and partners acted, he said, because being more efficient is the right thing to do for both the planet and the bottom line.

The council turned to the National Center for Construction Education & Research, which created the curriculum that the Green Building Council has endorsed. The course takes a holistic approach to working green, examining a wide range of principles.

One instructor, John Harder, said he is learning along with students.

"It's far more involved than I had ever imagined," said Harder, who teaches first-year electrical students as well as continuing education courses to journeyman electricians. He thought the course would merely cover what electricians could do on the job to make a difference, but found that it encourages wider behavioral changes, such as using mass transit to commute to work.

The course "has really opened my eyes in how far-reaching this attitude is," said Harder, who is chief estimator at SME Inc. of Seattle. For green technology to have the most impact, everybody needs to participate, he said.

According to Perrin, students have embraced the concepts of the course. They are mostly aware of the issues and are largely "very interested" in the training.

"As craft workers, our students are not involved in the design of products, but they do have positive roles to play," he said. "They learn to be more diligent at conserving resources at work and at home. As knowledgeable employees, they assist the contractor in achieving LEED goals."

Perrin added that as current and future maintenance workers, the students can influence the selection of high-efficiency lighting, HVAC equipment and appliances. "All things that will help improve green building practices and the environment," he said.

Scott Boyd, a third-year plumbing student who works for Redmond-based Merit Mechanical, said the course has helped him on the job. When he began the course, he was working on a LEED project on the Pacific Lutheran University campus in Tacoma.



“I applied the information in the (course) module to what I was doing at the time,” Boyd said. “It was interesting to see it all come together.”

The course will make him a better plumber. He said he will, for instance, be more conscientious about ordering materials that are manufactured as close to the job site as possible.

The course will boost the industry overall, according to Steve Murray, a project developer/designer with Northwest Mechanical and a plumbing instructor.

“A well-educated and skilled workforce helps reduce overall construction costs by using wise construction methods, re-using materials, reducing scrap and waste, and eliminating rework,” said Murray, who helped design and build the first LEED-platinum certified residential project in Washington.

The council, which is based in Bellevue but offers courses statewide, provides state-approved apprenticeship and craft training in the electrical, HVAC, painting, sheet-metal, plumbing, carpentry and heavy-equipment trades.



Instructor Kevin Ormsby teaches green construction and environmental awareness to carpentry students at CITC in Bellevue. The students are, from left: Trung Nguyen, Andrew Gordon, Brad Gruol and Robert Dawson.

## **SME Inc. of Seattle – Patriotic Employer**

*Source: Halene Sigmund, VP of Apprenticeship Construction Industry Training Council*

The Construction Industry Training Council of Washington salutes SME Inc. of Seattle for their support of the Guard and Reserve. In November of 2008, SME Inc of Seattle received recognition by The National Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve as a *Patriotic Employer* for contributing to National Security and Protecting Liberty and Freedom by supporting Employee Participation in America’s National Guard and Reserve Force.

This award was given in recognition of the support SME gave to one of its employee’s who was deployed to Iraq. While this employee was deployed his salary from the Reserve was significantly less than his civilian salary. As a result, SME paid him the difference between his salary and that which he was earning while deployed with the Navy Reserves.

Additionally, when this employee was in Iraq, he emailed SME and said his unit was short on tools to do the electrical work they needed to complete their mission. SME spearheaded a tool drive that resulted in cash donations from Associated Builders and Contractors and tool donations from several vendors, including Platt, Stoneway, and North Coast, among others. SME paid for crating and shipping the tools to the employee in Iraq. SME employees also donated tools and cash. SME matched the employees’ cash donations dollar for dollar.

SME received a Letter of Appreciation from the employee’s unit commander as a result of SME’s combined efforts. This employee nominated SME for the very prestigious *Above and Beyond Award*. SME was recognized as a Patriotic Employer by the local ESGR Committee. SME was recognized at a breakfast in mid-May, hosted by the Navy League and the ESGR, and received recognition as one of the *Employers of the Year* as well as receiving the *Above and Beyond Award*. Other employers recognized at that meeting were Costco Wholesale, Microsoft, Port of Seattle, Seattle Police Department, and Trident Foods.

## **Apprenticeship Section Loses Staff in Central Office**

*Source: Michael Thurman, Apprenticeship Consultant, WA Dept. of Labor & Industries*

Unfortunately on June 30, 2009, we lost a very important part of our Central Office staff. Stacy Mathis had been with us for about the last 2 years and helped with many areas in apprenticeship. Many of the programs had direct contact with her on a regular basis as she was given many varied and sometimes difficult assignment, but did an outstanding job completing them. She will be missed but we wish her well on her future endeavors.



## **Washington State Early Care & Education Apprenticeship OSPI/Tech Prep/Apprenticeship Collaboration “A Brighter Future for our Workforce”**

*Source: Lynda Sysko, WA State Early Care and Education Apprenticeship, Training Director*

The Washington State Early Care & Education Apprenticeship Program is sponsored by industry and supported by labor and education. It combines on-the-job training with theoretical instruction to produce certified child care specialists and educational paraprofessionals. Apprenticeship programs are a proven success in Washington State. The programs offer key benefits not normally found in other education and job training programs.

To qualify, students must meet specific requirements established by the college and high school instructors. College credits are free or at the least a minimal administrative fee for the transfer is applied. Credits are posted to transcripts during the summer following the school year in which they were earned. Credits appear on college transcripts after the first quarter/semester of formal college education.

In November of 2008, OSPI through the CTE model initiated collaboration with the WA State Early Care & Education Apprenticeship Program. Several training sessions took place. The participants included Family & Consumer Science Educators (FASCE), College Instructors, Pierce County Tech Prep Manager, a Center Based Program Director, the OSPI Tech Prep Program Manager and Apprenticeship Coordinator met to discuss the pilot program goals:

- Create an articulated pathway to college certification/degree and apprenticeship placement
- Increase student attainment of college credits through strong articulation and support
- Placement as apprentices in WA State Licensed or Certificated early care & education programs

### **Recruitment Strategies**

- Apprentices are recruited through student enrollment in Tech Prep program within individual high schools.
- Training Agent/Sponsors are recruited through direct contact with employers who operate licensed/certificated child care programs.

## Our Successes

- We also have started identifying districts in other parts of the state that we will work with the planning for implementation in fall of 2010-2011. We have conversations with Central Valley School District. Clark County is very eager to participate.
- Nationally recognized credential
- Job placements
- College credit opportunities
- ESSENTIALS textbook

## Our Challenges

- Partnerships with industry Training Agent/Sponsors
- Application process
- Transportation
- Students in extra-curricular activities

## Conclusion

This would be the only apprenticeship program that Students could work in while in high school. It also is an area that is highly female orientated though we recruit males as well.

Students will prepare for work as an apprentice by completing their STARS (WA State Training Registry System), a WAC required training for all child care workers. Though it is a 20 hour, 2 credit course, it will take high school students up to 45 hours to complete (1 full semester). They will be certified with their 1<sup>st</sup> Aid/CPR, HIV/BBP, and Food Handlers training prior to working with children.

The collaboration is an innovative partnership between the early care apprenticeship program and high schools and can be duplicated with the ECE programs nationwide.

## Operating Engineers Regional Training Program, Spring Update 2009

*Source: Jim Agnew, Tami St.Paul and Sandy Winter – The Operating Engineers Regional Training Program Staff*

We, at the Operating Engineers Training Program, have been busy training many of our members this past season. We sincerely hope that, by the time of printing of this newsletter, they are all putting the time they invested with us at the training center to good use in the field. We'd also like to welcome Duane Lee back from his retirement. He's back on staff since the middle of May, helping to manage things at the training center to accommodate our recent growth. We are quickly growing into one of the premier training programs of our kind and continue striving to live up to our commitment to being the best training program for our membership and contractors. We are working to make training more accessible to our members in any possible way. In the photos below, Gary Orsborn and Rick Wyllis of the training staff served as examiners for Snell Crane Services first ever Practical NCCCO testing at their yard near Olympia.



*Eric Snell, Owner Snell Crane Services, with Operating Engineers Training Program instructor and NCCCO examiner Rick Wyllis with the NCCCO small hydraulic test set up at Snell's Yard in Olympia.*



*Eric Snell, Don Kneeland – NCCCO test site coordinator and former crane instructor for the Operating Engineers Training Program with Operating Engineers Training Program instructor and NCCCO examiner Gary Orsborn with the Large Hydraulic crane practical exam set up at Snell's yard.*



The training coordinators traveled to most of the district meetings at both IUOE locals 302 and 612 to present jackets, certificates and our heartiest congratulations to graduating apprentices from Aberdeen to Tacoma to Mt. Vernon in the month of May.



*Pictured left to right above at the May 7<sup>th</sup> District 1 meeting for Local 302 graduates are: are Lamacha Bedada, Training Director, Jim Agnew, Tiffani Manney, Adam Clemons, Chris Scheid, Josh Langdon, Christopher Ganashmoorthy, Ryan McFarlane, Andrew Pellham, IUOE Local 302 Business Manager, Daren Konopaski, Kevin Cooper, Chris Kaestner, Brandi Breckenridge, Justin Ruth, Justin Carver, Jared Petersen, Jason Rumbaugh, and Training Coordinators Tami St. Paul and Sandy winter – far right*

*Pictured to the left – Graduating apprentice Risty Gillham receives her jacket and certificates of completion at the Aberdeen District 3 meeting May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2009.*



*Pictured above left to right at the May 18<sup>th</sup> IUOE local 612 District 1 meeting in Tacoma are Apprenticeship coordinators and Mechanic instructor Tami St. Paul, Ken Pagel, and Sandy Winter, graduating apprentice Nathan Steinman, 612 Dispatcher and Recording Corresponding Financial Secretary Charlie Lascuraine, Richard Holley, Ryan Clark, , Aaron Pollard, Jared Pratt Business representative and President of Local 612 Ed Taylor, Rodney Johnson, Scott Gehring, Business Manager, IUOE local 612 and Training trust chairman, Ernie Evans, Steven Boldt, Jason Cummings and retired mechanic instructor Roger Jones.*

For parts of the months of April, May and June, we have been training our entry level class of apprentices. Their numbers are small this year due to the downturn of the economy but they are a great bunch of apprentice candidates. We are very excited about the potential of this group and hope the journey level workers in the field will enjoy taking them under your wing to train as we have. We wish them luck in the field as we get them placed with our members and contractors this summer. *Pictured right are the entry level apprentices and our training program staff for 2009.*

Along with their time at the training center, part of what



these apprentices enter the work force armed with are numerous safety cards including a 40 hour haz-mat card done in conjunction with the International Union of Operating Engineers Haz-Mat Training Program. Their instructors were able to take some very dry and difficult material and make it interesting, fun and memorable.

April 23rd at the training center we hosted the Juniors and Seniors from area High Schools at our **3<sup>rd</sup> annual Construction Career Day**. Students from participating schools throughout central Washington got a chance to see if a career in construction might interest them. We had several of the Building and Construction Trades Crafts Apprenticeship programs represented at the event with great hands on challenges for the students to try out.



*Left, students and their teachers and counselors spent part of the day learning about the amazing opportunities offered by Building and Construction Trades Apprenticeships. right, Students got to try their hand at working with cement with the cement mason's apprenticeship*



*Pictured here to the left,, Hoisting Engineer Apprentice, David Hazlewood, helps the students get the feel for the crane world. Pictured to the Right Apprentice John Hamilton assists the students in trying out the loader.*



This interactive and hands on outreach event has over tripled in size every year we have sponsored it. We had over 300 students and their teachers and counselors participate this year. It's been a great way to get the information out to the future workforce about the opportunities available to them through a Building Trades Construction Apprenticeship when they are ready to choose their careers. We participate in several of these events throughout the year all over Western and Central Washington State. Our goal... That apprenticeship not be the best kept secret in the education community any more. We have a time tested, truly effective learning model and we want the best and the brightest students who enjoy being outdoors and building things with their hands to know about these opportunities.



## **MAGIC~ Mentoring a Girl in Construction, May 11-14, 2009 – Tri Cities**

*Source: Julie Lindstrom, Apprenticeship Consultant, WA Dept. of Labor & Industries*



MAGIC (mentoring a girl in construction) Camp held May 11-14 was a 4 night career exploration and skills camp where the participants were able to learn about the various career opportunities in construction and complete various construction related projects in the areas of carpentry, welding, laborer, sheet metal and electrical. They were able to meet with local apprenticeship coordinators as well as work side by side with area female apprentices and journeymen to construct their projects. The projects ranged from assembling cedar planters to wiring light switches to welding desk plates and fabricating sheet metal bird houses. The students also learned how to read grades and elevations for surveying and to tie rigging knots with the laborers. Twenty one students in grades 8-12 from all over the Tri-Cities participated. The camp was co-hosted by the Tri Cities Chapter of National Women in Construction (NAWIC) and a large group of local sponsors. It is hoped that it will become an annual event.

## **Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.'s 17th Annual Women in Trades Career Fair – Goes Green!**

*Source: Mary Ann Naylor, PR Specialist, Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.*

Produced annually since 1993, Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.'s Women in Trades Career Fair is a dynamic, three day event introducing girls and women to high-paying, high skill careers in the building, mechanical, utility, and highway trades through interactive workshops and hands-on activities. New in 2009, the Fair included green-specific workshops, speakers and information booths introducing girls and women to the emerging technologies and practices of green construction.

Through longstanding, dedicated industry sponsorship and participation to make the Fair happen, the event serves to connect aspiring tradeswomen to opportunities in apprentice training, employment, and careers. Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc. is extremely grateful to the many businesses, organizations and individuals who support our work to inspire girls and women to explore career pathways in the trades as viable options for their futures.

Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.'s 17th Annual Women in Trades Career Fair By the Numbers:

***2009 Women in Trades Career Fair  
May 14, 15, and 16, 2009***

415 Girls on Middle School Day  
540 Girls on High School Day  
635 Adults on Careers for Women Day  
67 Schools  
82 Educators  
36 Dads & Daughters attended a special  
breakfast with Oregon Labor  
Commissioner Brad Avakian.  
72 Exhibitors  
34 Workshops  
18 Apprenticeship Programs  
7 Community Colleges with Trades  
Programs  
108 Volunteers



*Photo Source: NW Labor Press*

From Connie Ashbrook, Executive Director of Oregon Tradeswomen, Inc.:

"Every year I see again how important it is for girls to have the opportunity to meet industry women role-models like Steamfitter Marci Wichman, Cement Mason Johnetta Abraham and Electrician Jonni Ocejo. The Fair is truly a labor of love for all the apprenticeship programs and employers who present the workshops, as they seek to reach out to the women and girls who attend."

"We are grateful to all the workshop presenters for all their efforts. We also want to thank our many industry sponsors for funding the event, making possible the bus scholarships for the schools, the television advertising and all the things that go into making an event like the Fair. We especially owe a debt of gratitude to the NECA/IBEW Electrical Training Center and their staff. They graciously hosted the Fair, and worked hard every day to help the Fair go smoothly."

"We had 72 Exhibitors at the 17th Annual Women in Trades Career Fair, and for the first time ever, we hosted a Dads & Daughters breakfast event (with special guest speaker Brad Avakian, Oregon Labor Commissioner). The Dads and Daughters breakfast drew 18 dads from the trades of: Glazier, Sheet Metal, Truck Driver, Boilermaker, Laborer, Electrician, Linemen, Auto, and HVAC. They were proud to introduce their daughters to the variety of trades careers showcased at the Fair".

## Teenagers land apprenticeship opportunities: Students in Portland training program gain skills and experience in construction trades

Source: *Daily Journal of Commerce, Portland: June 16, 2009* BY [JUSTIN CARINCI](#)

While the promise of pocket money often lures high-school students into jobs, the jobs offer little more. A Portland program, however, is helping teenagers who are still in school gain skills and experience for careers in the building trades.

Six [Benson Polytechnic High School](#) students are completing their first year in a pilot program that lets them earn apprenticeship hours as they work toward a diploma. The **Youth Apprenticeship Training Program**, organized by the **Portland Workforce Alliance**, puts the students under the supervision of journeymen at Portland-area shops.

“They work alongside millwrights, electricians, welders and get that hands-on experience,” said Kevin Jeans Gail with the Portland Workforce Alliance.

Youth apprentice Ben Shy just graduated from Benson. He works at [Gunderson LLC](#).

“I do maintenance on equipment, troubleshooting transformers, repairing welding equipment (and) machinery,” Shy said. “It’s different every day; that’s why I like it.”

Drew Park of [Columbia Wire and Iron](#), one of three companies that hired youth apprentices, said he didn’t need to make special accommodations for the students. “They came to work just like an apprentice would,” he said.

“They did the safety training and then were put out to work on the floor with a lead man learning how to grind rail and lay out parts and start down the path.”

Although young, the student apprentices come to work with more skills than typical high-school students. Unsurprisingly, they don’t attend a typical high school.

“This is not your neighborhood school,” said Benson Polytechnic principal Steve Olczak. “When they come here, they take regular high-school classes, but they’re required to enter a full technical education program as a condition of graduation.”

Of that technically minded bunch, dozens of students applied for the six open positions. That number was whittled down to 23 who then interviewed with the companies. Each company hired two apprentices.

The students were motivated and disciplined enough that they didn’t need special supervision, Park said. “They got such a good education at Benson ahead of time, they plugged right in.”

Getting students invested in a career provides a bridge that keeps them in the building trades after graduation, Park said. The students earn apprenticeship hours in their trade, which gives them an incentive to continue.

“It’s transferable,” Park said. “You can live here, in L.A., San Francisco – there are shops everywhere.”

Shy said he hopes to stay on with Gunderson when his youth apprenticeship ends this fall. If he doesn’t get hired, he said, he’d have to consider moving to where he can find electrical work.

He isn’t considering a different career – not after putting in so much work. He’s already logged more than 600 hours toward the 2,000 hours he needs for his limited maintenance electrician license.

“I’m definitely not going to give up,” Shy said.

In the short term, employers say, jobs are scarce. Looking into the future, however, they have the opposite concern – they don't know how they'll fill open positions.

“The baby boomer retirement is happening,” Park said. “I can walk right out in my shop – it's not theoretical whatsoever.”

Tyson Terhar of PCC Structural, which also took two youth apprentices, said it will be hard to make up for those retirements. “That's the reason we started up the Youth Apprenticeship Training Program,” he said.

“Industry-wide, we are worried about having a skilled pool of labor.”

Even amid layoffs, youth apprentices at Gunderson LLC have made themselves valuable, said Scott Eave of the company. Other workers there even fought to keep Shy around.

“The head of the department said, ‘Can we keep him through the summer?’” Eave said. “We thought they'd say ‘We've done our time with him.’ And now they're talking about maybe even hiring him in the fall if they can justify the position.”

## APPRENTICESHIP & RELATED EVENTS CALENDAR

Check out the [L&I Apprenticeship On-line Calendar](#) of Events for details on upcoming activities.  
<http://www.lni.wa.gov/tradelicensing/apprenticeship/newsevents/calendar/>

### REMINDER!!!

**August 31, 2009** is the last day for "Requests for Revision of Committee/Standards" or "Request for New Committee/Standards" forms to be submitted for the **October 2009** Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council Meeting.

### August 2009

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#### Pacific Northwest Apprenticeship Symposium

Date: August 10, 2009

Time: 9:00 A.M. – 5:00 P.M. (Check-in begins at 8:30 A. M.)

Location: Georgetown Campus

Puget Sound Industrial Excellence Center

Apprenticeship & Education Center

6737 Corson Avenue South, Seattle, WA 98108

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[Information flyer](#) (671 KB PDF)



[Registration form](#) (318 KB PDF)

### September 2009

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#### Veterans Job Fair

Date: September 2, 2009 - A Labor Day Salute to Veterans

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: AMVETS, 5717 South Tyler

Tacoma, WA 98409

Exhibitors can register online at [www.PierceCountyVETS.org](http://www.PierceCountyVETS.org) and select Register | Exhibitor Registration

Can't make the job fair? The Business Connection can help represent your business during our event. Please contact them at 253-583-8800 or [info@theBusinessConnection.net](mailto:info@theBusinessConnection.net) for additional information.

#### Spokane Construction Career Day

Date: September 29 - 30, 2009

Time: TBD

Location: Spokane County Fairgrounds

Spokane, Washington



## September 2009 (Cont.)

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### King County Construction Career Day 2009

Date: September 30 - October 1, 2009

Time: TBD

Location: Magnuson Park, Seattle, Washington

 [Save the Date flyer](#) (342 KB PDF)

## October 2009

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### Tri City Construction Career Day

Date: October 6, 2009

Time: TBD

Location: Benton County Fairgrounds

### 58th Annual Governor's Industrial Safety and Health Conference

Date: October 7 & 8, 2009

Time: TBD

Location: Greater Tacoma Convention and Trade Center

Tacoma, Washington

For more information, visit the [Governor's Industrial Safety and Health Conference Web site](#).

### Washington State Apprenticeship and Training Council Quarterly Meeting

Date: October 15-16, 2009

Time: 9 a.m. both days

Location: Spokane

For additional information and copies of the agendas, please contact the [Apprenticeship Section](#) at 360-902-5320, e-mail [thum235@Lni.wa.gov](mailto:thum235@Lni.wa.gov) or go to our [Agenda/Minutes page](#).

### Washington Workforce & Economic Development Conference 2009

Date: October 27 - 29, 2009

Online registration starts in August. To get the early bird registration e-mail announcement, email [Yvonne Chase](mailto:yvonne.chase@wtb.wa.gov) ([yvonne.chase@wtb.wa.gov](mailto:yvonne.chase@wtb.wa.gov)).

To reserve your room at the Davenport for the "Workforce and Economic Development Conference" at the state per diem rate, call 1 800-899-1482.

## November 2009

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### Pierce County Construction Career Day

Date: November 5, 2009

Time: 8:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Location: Puyallup Fairgrounds

- Try hands-on activities
- Learn about equipment
- Meet with professionals
- Enjoy a free lunch

 [Information sheet for Sponsors](#) (221KB PDF)

 [Information sheet for Career Advisors/Teachers](#) (57KB PDF)

 [Information sheet for Students/others](#) (91KB PDF)

To register online or for more information, please go to: [www.buildingyourcareer.com/ccd](http://www.buildingyourcareer.com/ccd) or contact: Kristi Grassman at 253-404-3983, or email [kgrassman@pic.tacoma.wa.us](mailto:kgrassman@pic.tacoma.wa.us)

### Veterans Job Fair

Date: November 4, 2009 - Veteran's Day Celebration

Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Location: AMVETS, 5717 South Tyler

Tacoma, WA 98409

Exhibitors can register online at [www.PierceCountyVETS.org](http://www.PierceCountyVETS.org) and select Register | Exhibitor Registration

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