



# The WV Carpenter



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Odie R. Parkins Jr.  
Editor

### WV Carpenter

Phone: (866) 428-1891  
Fax: (304) 428-8081  
Email: CTC@casinternet.net

### Inside this issue:

Inside Story	2
Journeyman Training	2
Carpenters Needed!	3
Millwright News	4
Safety Footwear	5
Questionable Contractor	7
Wheeling News	9

## Advancing the Brotherhood in WV

*Dick Ullum*

The West Virginia District of the MARCC is undergoing some drastic changes. As most of you already know, our office address has changed. While the Council office is still located in Parkersburg, with the help of the Council office in Maryland, we were able to purchase a new facility that will better suit our purposes and our members. We are insistent that the Carpenters become a regional force. Unless we make these changes we are destined to watch our strength fade and shift out of our hands.

Our organizing department is constantly working to better the situation here in the state. We will soon welcome

two to three new organizers on board. The work load taken on by these organizers is heavy to be sure. Please consider lending your support to the cause of organizing. Your time and effort may reap grand rewards for us all.

We are currently updating our entire communication system in our main offices, as well. This will all be for the purpose of assisting and fulfilling the needs of the members in our state. Unless we can efficiently offer assistance to the many calls and requests we receive every day we can't exert our best effort into organizing and gaining greater market share that will equal more work for you, the member.

We look forward to our new 20-20 Communications system for automated member service, our new membership databases, and our WV Council web site. These advancements can bring this great organization to the forefront of the labor movement in West Virginia. If we don't put forth the effort to promote ourselves, and serve our members efficiently we can't possibly succeed in our future endeavors.

Fraternally,  
Dick Ullum

Dist. Manager - MARCC WV

### Special Points of Interest:

- *Putting competition back in the workplace.*
- *Change of address and reply form.*
- *Special deals on safety footwear.*
- *Union Carpenters get public school coverage.*
- *Skills survey shows that we need to work...*
- *Let your voice be heard*
- *Labor disputes City Council decision*

## Solidarity Is Not Just For The Job Site!

As I write this article it has come to my attention that a few West Virginians from our ranks in the Brotherhood have been called to duty, to serve their country in the Middle East. Our President, George W. Bush has seen it fit to combat the forces of Saddam Hussein and send our troops into battle. Whether we agree or disagree with this war is of little consequence. However, it is of great consequence to keep our fellow Americans and our Brothers and

Sisters that are in harms way in our hearts and minds.

While there is bitter opposition to the decisions of the president and his economic plans, most Americans still feel that our country will come out victorious in any event. The American spirit, as it sometimes is called, is nothing more than solidarity. Solidarity is, basically speaking, a group of people harboring their beliefs in a greater good and working together to improve their situa-

tion. We as Union people know the power behind solidarity. We can see it working in the history of our trade and in the vision our Union leaders display.

Hopefully, by the time this article reaches you the war may be over, for that we can only hope. By the time you read this, you may know of a friend or loved one in that foreign country fighting for our country and defending the welfare of others.

*Continued on page 8...*

2003 JSU's

# Journeyman Skills Updates

June, July, August

## Bridgeport Branch - 609 Broadway, Bridgeport WV

6/9 - Advanced Math	7/16-17 - System Formwork	8/4-6 - Blueprints
6/10-11 - Transit and Layout	7/18 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>	8/15 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>
6/6 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>	7/21-22 - Construction Math	
6/16-18 - Trim / Finish work	7/28-29 - Floor laying	<b><i>!Attention!</i></b>
6/26-27 - Construction Math		<i>All First Aid/CPR classes are OSHA Approved</i>

## Charleston Branch - 300 Riverside Dr., S. Charleston WV

6/12-13 - Construction Math	7/9-11 - Metal/Soffit Framing	8/8 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>
6/18-19 - Floor laying	7/14-15 - System Formwork	8/11-13 - Blueprints
6/20 - Firestop	7/16 - Advanced Math	8/14-15 - Metal Framing
6/23-24 - Trim / Finish work	7/17-18 - Transit and Layout	
6/27 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>	7/24-25 - Doors / Hardware	<b><i>!Attention!</i></b>
	7/25 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>	<i>All First Aid/CPR classes are OSHA Approved</i>

## Parkersburg Branch - 110 Raintree Rd., Parkersburg WV

6/9-10 - Construction Math	7/2-3 - Metal/Soffit Framing	8/4-5 - Doors and Hardware
6/20 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>	7/7-9 - Ceiling Systems	8/7-8 - System Formwork
6/25-27 - Floor laying	7/11 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>	8/18-20 - Blueprints
	7/21-22 - Trim / Finish work	8/21-2 - Metal/Soffit Framing
<b><i>!Attention!</i></b>	7/28 - Advanced Math	8/22 - <u>First Aid/CPR</u>
<i>All First Aid/CPR classes are OSHA Approved</i>	7/29-30 - Transit and Layout	

You ***MUST*** register for JSU training. Classes will be cancelled if attendees do not register. You will not be notified of class changes if you don't register.

Your \$20 registration fee will be returned upon completion of training. Your registration fee does not pay for training, it only helps ensure that we maintain attendance.

Above is a list of JSU Training Classes designed to update and enhance the skills of journeymen and apprentices from all over the state. Every carpenter needs skill enhancement from time to time. You can't expect to be knowledgeable on new products and systems that you have never seen before. Maybe you've never been given the opportunity to work in a particular aspect of the trade. Take advantage of these classes...You helped pay for them!

All JSU's are subject to a standard \$20.00 registration fee. This fee will be returned to the member upon completion of the class. Class size is limited to 10. If interest surpasses the limit then other classes will be offered. You MUST call or use the mail in registration included on page 6 to register. If you do not register you will not be notified of changes in class schedule. All classes are scheduled to begin at 8:00 AM unless otherwise notified during registration. First Aid/CPR class times may vary. If member fails to attend the class without cancellation prior to class, any fee will be forfeited to the Training Center for class costs. Make all check or money orders out to **WV District TC.**

This section of the newsletter is dedicated to our friends and fellow members of the West Virginia District who have been activated for military service in the Middle East. We have addresses to hopefully get all of our mail and copies of the newsletter to these members.

We've need to keep these members and their families in our thoughts. Please remember that if you know of a member that has been activated for service they must contact the Council office to apply for "In-Service" status. The following members have received orders and are currently in service:

**Josh Smallwood - Local 476**

**Robert Neal - Local 302**

**Ronald Conley - Local 1207**

We wish you the best Brothers, and hope to see you return home soon. Be safe, you are in our thoughts.

## Carpenters Needed for Ergonomics Study

*NIOSH*

Healthy construction workers with at least one year of experience working on stilts at 24" to 40" height range are needed for a National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), Division of Safety Research study on body balance and stresses associated with the use of stilts. The experiment will be conducted in Morgantown, West Virginia. The time requirement for this study will be about

three to four hours. Participants will be compensated for their time at \$30.00 per hour.

Subjects will be asked to put on stilts provided by the laboratory and perform walking and standing tasks. Subjects will wear tightly fitted clothing and safety shoes provided by the laboratory, and reflective markers will be taped to the subjects body.

Only a limited number of subjects are needed, so act quickly to take advantage of

this opportunity. For more information please call the NIOSH contact, Douglas Cantis, Monday through Thursday, between 7:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. at (304) 285-6013.

Thank you,

**Christopher S. Pan**

*Research Safety Engineer  
Division of Safety Research*

*Only 20% of apprentices claim experience in any kind of patent form system...systems used on Construction site every day!*

*Only 50% claim instruction in framing with metal!*

## Organizing Staff Working Hard in Beckley Area

Organizers and other staff of the MARCC - WV have been working extremely hard in the Greenbrier area of the state as of late. The area may soon have some new contractors, new jobs, and very possibly a newly chartered local to look forward to. Local 1911 Business Representative, Bob Malesky states that several

contractors have expressed interest in a new residential contract that's in the design stages now. The upcoming work is mainly high-end, timber framed housing. These houses will take a lot of skill and craftsmanship to build. We will need a Local union hall of specialized carpenters to call on.

The Greenbrier Valley has seen several years of excited growth and doesn't seem to be slowing down anytime soon. With any luck the MARCC - WV may be welcoming new residential carpenters and perhaps even a residential apprenticeship program to produce the quality craftsman-ship needed for these structures.

Congratulations for the progress in that area, and thanks for all your hard work.

*Only 2% of all apprentices state that they have received instruction relating directly to Heavy and Highway Construction.*

## Training Program Surveyed

Apprenticeship classes have been running steadily for the past few months. Most apprentices are thrilled with the new program and are excited about the training they are receiving. I would like to personally thank all the apprentices for being patient and sticking with us while we made this change to the program.

Apprenticeship instructors Odie Parkins Sr. and Paul Shaffer have reported that our apprentices are quite impressive and are working hard in class.

We have recently compiled the results of a survey conducted to evaluate the

training needs of our apprentices across the state. We are inclined to believe that these results may also relate to Journeymen. Initially, the survey was a way to find subjects that may need more attention. The results however, were that due to previous financial restraints, inadequate facilities, and lack of experience on job sites, our apprentices were receiving substandard educations in comparison to outside training programs.

We have addressed this situation in the best way possible to our District. We have standardized an apprenticeship curriculum and evaluated

the needs of specific areas to increase the employability of every apprentice. Our apprentices will now receive training in general skills as well as having the opportunity to attend training based on the market trends of their area.

If members or contractors are interested in obtaining a shortened copy of the result sheet of the survey, please contact the Training Center or request a copy on the response form found on page 4 of this publication.

If you would like an extended version of the survey, please contact the JATC office.

*Our studies show that unless we get serious about improving our skills as an organization, we will surely fade .*

*We simply won't be able to compete with a new generation of builders that not only will work for less, but will work efficiently as well.*

## International Millwright Combustion and Steam Turbine Program

The UBC International Training Program based in Las Vegas is promoting and sponsoring an innovative training opportunity for Millwrights that have the prerequisites. These members will be flown **at no cost to them** with a local qualified instructor for a one week qualification class in gas turbine training that will be held at the Millwright National Training Center in Las Vegas. Instructors to participate in this program are attending classes now and will be ready to travel with participants this spring. If you wish to participate you must have the following:

- \* GE 3 Day Familiarization
- \* Millwright 16 hour Safety Card
- \* UBC Rigging Qualification Card
- \* Millwright Qualification card
- \* Millwright Apprenticeship

For more information contact Director of Training Bill Boso at 1-304-422-7637.

### Stewards Training Program

Millwright Local 1755 is conducting Stewards Training Classes. These classes will be offered to all interested members. This program is being offered to familiarize each participant with the responsibilities and duties of a steward as a part of the overall Millwright 1755 Stewards Support Program. This class has been revised

to 8 hours to be taught in two 4 hour segments.

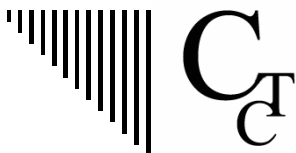
If you are interested call the hall at 1-304-422-1857.

Millwright Local 1755 is well into the winter training season. Millwright Director of Training Bill Boso reports that classes are going well with the assistance of the Instructional Staff. The 1755 program staff includes Dave Johnson, Jim Bradshaw, John Richards, Dan Dicks, Tom Sarchet, Paul Shultz, Stan Johnston and Rusty Abrams. Instructional Staff from the DC, Maryland and Virginia Areas are also working in support of the Millwright programs for both apprentices and journeyman.

### Special Discount

### Special Offer

The Workingman's Store in Parkersburg, WV and Marietta, OH offers a discount to all Union members to the amount of 10% on any safety shoe. Take your business to a company that understands our business and supports our purpose. See story on page 5.



Carpenter Training Center



**Safety Footwear**  
...cont'd from p. 5



In the following months look for further installments of **Safety Footwear 101** and we will go into more detail concerning each type protective footwear so that you can be better informed, more comfortable on the job, and get the best value for your hard earned money.

**Please remember:** Workingman's discounts ALL safety toe footwear at least 10% to Union

members. Make sure you take advantage of this discount if you purchase at either of our locations. We are located at 1201 Grand Central Ave. in Vienna, WV (304-295-2345) or 113 Putnam St. in Marietta, OH (740-373-5648).

**P.S.** Take advantage of this unadvertised special: Purchase 2 denim snap 'welding' shirts, either Wrangler or Carhartt, and get a third one for **FREE**. Buy 4 and get 2 free, etc... Good thru June 15, 2003.

### Carpenters Respond! / Address Change

Please return to the Carpenter Training Center.

Please cut out this response form and return to the Training Center. Use this form if you would like to request an address change or offer suggestions to the WV District. Also use this form to request any training you may wish to see in the future.

Are you satisfied with the material in this issue?

- Yes
- No
- Not at all

If out of work, would you attend training classes through the day if it did not effect you low earnings?

- Would attend
- Would not attend
- Might attend

If attending a skills update class would make you more employable...

- Would you attend
- Would you not attend
- Would you consider it

Please offer any suggestions about training classes you'd like to see offered in the comments box to the right.

Comments:

My address has changed, please update your records.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

All apprentice time cards **MUST** be mailed to the following address:

**110 Raintree Road  
Parkersburg, WV 26104**

## WV Council Office Hang's Hat Somewhere New

For the past year and a half our council office has been in a rental space in Parkersburg, WV on Emerson Ave. Now everyone will need to change all the information they have to reflect the changes that have recently taken place. WV's Council office, under the direction of Dick Ullum and with the assistance of MARCC EST Bill Halbert, has purchased and remodeled a structure that will be the offices where the business of the Carpenters in WV takes

place. The office is located directly on the main thoroughfare of Parkersburg.

It may take some time for our offices to be up and running to full swing while the move takes place so please be patient. The office staff of



the MARCC WV will do the best they can to aid you with any problem.

We would like to thank all the volunteer Journeymen and Apprentices that assisted with the remodeling process and for helping the council office make a relatively quick change of residence. Without their help the move could never have been made so easily and efficiently. The offices and workers there will be adjusting to the new location in the coming months, but adjustment takes time.

So please, if you have a problem and need assistance from the Council office...

Please pardon our dust while we make improvements. We're working to make West Virginia better for all members.

Please write down this new information:

**MARCC - WV District  
1812 Garfield Ave.  
Parkersburg, WV 26101**

**If you know of someone who's loved ones are on active duty in the military effort, offer your support by helping out in some way.**

## Local 1207 News

To all Local 1207 members,

You will be receiving a new Authorization form in the mail that allows the council to represent and bargain for you with any contractor you may be working for. This is an essential document when negotiating or dealing with contractors trying to decertify from union status. Please read, sign, and return this form to Local 1207

as soon as possible. This needs to be signed and returned no matter who you are working for. If you are not presently working, it will be kept in your file for future reference.

I would like all 1207 members to call Mary at (304) 342-4321 when reporting that you are out of work. To eliminate any confusion, Mary will be handling all out of work calls and relaying them to me.

### Scott Brewer

Another point of interest is that Putnam General Hospital is no longer a drug testing site for LEAD. Please call the office for other collection sites if you have been using Putnam General. LEAD is in the process of finding another facility in the Putnam County area.

Fraternally,  
Scott Brewer

### Mail All Dues To:

**MARCC - WV District  
1812 Garfield Ave.  
Parkersburg, WV  
26101**

## Safety Footwear 101- plus a great offer!

... Cont'd on p. 4

Many people are unaware of the different types of protective footwear that are available. We see many customers who come into the store looking for safety footwear and they want a shoe because it looks good or is lightweight. They do not give any thought to what type of footwear would be best for the job they do or what special requirements need to be in the boot to give them the maximum protection needed.

There are basically 7 types of protective footwear: *steel toe*, *composite toe*, *metatarsal guard*, *static dissipative*

*(SD)*, *electrical Hazard (EH)*, *puncture resistant*, and *slip resistant*. These types of footwear are tested and regulated under the auspices of OSHA and all manufacturers must conform to the OSHA specifications for each type of footwear in order to be in compliance.

Safety toed footwear used to be called simply "steel toe" because the cap was always made from tempered steel. Not so any more. With the invention of different composite materials the cap can now be made in many different configurations. Both steel and composite toed footwear

meets ANSI and OSHA specifications but both also have advantages and disadvantages.

**Steel toe:** *Advantages-* Can be used in more styles of shoes, can be impacted and still meet specifications, generally cost less.

*Disadvantages-* Retains cold.

**Composite toe:** *Advantages-* Does not retain cold, some styles are slightly lighter in weight than steel.

*Disadvantages-* If impacted the toe does not meet safety specifications, generally costs more.



Millwright spring Steam Turbine Training Course. Members from Local 1755 participated in the class in January, 2003. Members from Cumberland MD, will be attend in May at the Local 1755's Millwright Training Facility.

## First Ever, Statewide E-Board Meeting

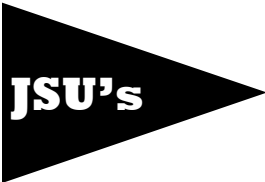
On March 22 the WV District of the MARCC hosted their first ever, Statewide E-board meeting in the new Charleston Branch building of the Carpenter Training Center. It was a full house in the meeting as representatives from all over the state were invited to hear talks on all matters that are of importance to the Brotherhood here in West Virginia.

Earlier, in an Eastern District meeting in Atlantic City, WV District representatives were placed with others from the

MARCC to assess the degree of "alignment". This idea of alignment is the degree to which every member is thought to believe in and desire to work toward a better Brotherhood and to increase our productivity as an organization. District Manager, Dick Ullum, observed the need for all of the locals in the state to better communicate with one another and to see the situations that occur around the state. Statewide unity is the only way we can be truly productive. From that point,

nationwide unity can emerge.

Talks on organizing, membership retention, political action, the carpenters' health fund, and the resolution to the savings plan with the Credit Union were presented. All in all, the day was an informative meeting for all those in attendance. Hopefully, the day will promote a united effort for the advancement of the Brotherhood here in West Virginia. We are all part of the same great Union, let's all work toward making it better for the future.



### Please Register

Use this form to register for a Journeyman Skills Update class for the summer session. You can also call the Training Center at (866) 428-1891 to register. Other classes will be offered during the evenings and weekends. You must register to attend. If there are no registered attendees the class may be cancelled.



### JSU Registration Form

Sign up for:

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Transit and Layout           | <input type="checkbox"/> Light Gauge Welding  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Construction Math            | <input type="checkbox"/> Doors and Hardware   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Advanced Math                | <input type="checkbox"/> First Aid/CPR        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Floor laying                 | <input type="checkbox"/> System Formwork      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blueprints                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Trim and Finish Work |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metal Framing/Soffit Framing | <input type="checkbox"/> Other                |



#### Location:

- Bridgeport
- Charleston
- Parkersburg

Explain Other: *i.e.- Scaffold* \_\_\_\_\_

\* Method of Payment

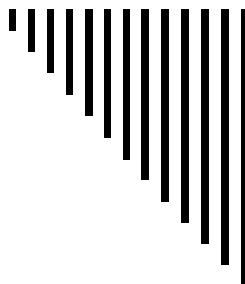
- Check
- Money Order

\* You must reserve your registration with a \$20 registration fee. This fee will be returned to you in full upon completion of the class.

Name \_\_\_\_\_ UBC ID \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

### Carpenter Training Center Mail-in Registration Form



MARCC - WV Joint Training Center  
 110 Raintree Road  
 Parkersburg, WV 26104  
 Phone: 866-428-1891  
 Fax: 304-428-8081  
 Email: CTC@casinternet.net

## Carpenters Dispute Questionable Contractor

Odie Parkins

On April 15<sup>th</sup> members from several different labor organizations were represented at a City Council meeting in Ripley WV. The main item of debate for the evening was the awarding of a contract bid to a non-union contractor from Ohio. Representatives from the AFL-CIO, ACT, WV Labor Council, Cement Masons, and the Carpenters were all on hand for the debate. By far, Union carpenters far outnumbered all those in attendance for the meeting. Carpenters from locals 1207, 899, 1159, and 476 were all in attendance.

The contract had been awarded to the lowest bidder for the project. However, the law of "due process" states that the bid shall be awarded to the lowest, responsible bidder. The debate, lead by local 1207 representative Scott Brewer, was to provide proof that the contractor in question, Trimat Construction, was anything but a responsible contractor. A series of documents stating that the representative for Trimat, Maurice Toler, had been involved in a number of lawsuits and had even plead guilty to charges of bribing a HUD official to obtain work. Leroy Stanley, Director of Organizing for the WV Carpenters also addressed the Council with more evidence that the Contractor had a questionable past such as the debarment of the contractor

from working in WV due to suits filed against them in the early 1990's.

ACT representative "Fuzz" Larue addressed council to add that these questions could have all been avoided if an 18 point bid criteria had been employed during the process. A representative from the WV State Labor Council and a resident of Ripley asked why the City Council had not performed their own investigation into the bidders to find evidence of responsibility of those who bid on the project. It was brought to the attention of all those present that the Mayor Guthrie had stated at a previous meeting that since the Council rejected the bid of the low bidder [Trimat], then they were rejecting all bids. It also became evident that legal counsel for the city had not conducted its background search completely. Scott Brewer presented the Council with documents, all of which are available to the public on the internet or on public record that painted an ugly picture of the contractor through the past 20 years. The main argument from Mr. Toler was that he has no ownership in the company whatsoever. Mr. Toler did prove however that he was not the owner of Trimat Construction. The main shareholders of the company are, in fact, his two children. The name Trimat is a combination of the names of

the two children.

It was made clear by our representatives that the debate was not a Union or non-Union issue. The argument was not presented from a Union angle; it was presented from a WV resident's angle and the desire to see a qualified and responsible contractor perform the work at hand. The Council cast their votes on the issue and the award of the bid was upheld with a 4 to 2 vote. The residents of Ripley present for the meeting were, for the most part, appalled by the accusations brought forth that night and stood in disgust after the vote. One long time resident and grandmother to a Union carpenter stated "I resent that this job was not awarded to a WV company!" Mr. Toler states that he will employ several Union companies as sub-contractors but to that end we will have to wait and see.

Thanks you to all those that attended the meeting. It helps when members become actively involved. No one can do the work of a Union and attend every Council meeting in every city or town. We may still yet see some good come of this situation. The residents of Ripley now know that the Union Carpenters in their town will speak out on situations the feel strongly about. If every member would speak out and work together, we could sway many votes in our favor.



Contractor, Maurice Toler looks a bit uneasy as accusations of lawsuits are brought to light in City Council meeting in Ripley, WV.



Concerned citizens of Ripley were in agreement with Labor tonight. "Investigate this contractor further!"



Members participating in the UBC 40 hour Scaffold Certification class in the Charleston Branch Training Facility.

### First Aid/CPR Training



The Carpenter Training Center will offer its own First Aid/CPR certification. This certification will come at no cost to any of our members if attended in one of our Training Center branches.

**A full listing of all Journeyman Skills Update classes that will be offered on the weekends and the evenings will be posted at your Local Union hall. Dates and time vary on these classes. Either stop by you Union hall to see the listing in the future or call the Training Center to find out what is being offered in your area. If you can't attend every day of the Summer classes offered in this issue, then try to attend as much as possible.**

## ...Solidarity *continued from cover page*

Many of our Union brothers and sisters are involved with the military action to varying degrees. We have seen both Journeymen and Apprentices activated in the past few months. To them we owe loyalty. Our organization has taken steps to ease the burden of these members by relieving them of dues payments during service. However, we as their brothers and sisters in their home towns need to do more. What can we do to ease the burden of our members away in a foreign country? Our Union is a family affair. Families

support the ideals of Union life. Our members that have been activated have concerns about the families they have left behind.

Every member in WV should be ready and willing to aid a family of a brother or sister at any time and in every way possible. Do you know of a Union member that has been activated and left their family to fight for the rights of others? Summer is coming, offer to mow the grass for someone who doesn't have enough help around the house. Offer to fix a door or stairway for the fam-

ily of a friend since the household carpenter may be away. Invite a family to dine along with your own since they may be lonely and need the support of friends. Solidarity comes in many forms. Union Solidarity should not just exist on the job. It must exist and extend into the lives of Union members.

If there are families in need of assistance, please contact the WV Carpenter. We may be able to help. To help ease the burdens and worries of our brothers and sisters by helping each other

at home is the very least we can do. If every member would try to make themselves available to a family that has a loved one involved in a conflict, we can truly become a strong, united force.

If you need assistance, please call the Local Union hall or the Training Center.

Fraternally,



Odie R.

Parkins Jr.  
Training Coordinator

**10% off to all Union Members at the Workingman's Store!**  
See article on page 3

*For useful and interesting labor related reading, visit*  
[www.unionist.com](http://www.unionist.com) &  
[www.labornet.net](http://www.labornet.net)

## Carpenters Reply - Allow Yourself to be Heard

The WV Carpenter will host a section called "Carpenters Reply". It is similar to your local newspaper's letters to the editor. Carpenters and Contractors alike can submit letters by post or by email to the editor of the WV Carpenter and the staff of the WV District. If there is a point of interest in your area that you'd like to bring to the attention of other members, feel free to send it

in and it may be printed in the next edition.

This newsletter, it's articles, and the people behind it are all an effort to bring unity to the Carpenters in WV. So much goes on across our fair state and little is known outside the immediate area. This can be a way of getting to know the situations of members across the state.

This section of the newsletter can become a great

tools for sharing almost any kind of information to ALL members in the state. If you'd like to write into the editor or post questions to the staff of the MARCC WV, please send your mail to:

WV Carpenters Reply  
110 Raintree Road  
Parkersburg, WV 26104

Or email to [odiejatc@cs.com](mailto:odiejatc@cs.com)

## Work Outlook →

Work is not great at the present time. But here are a few jobs coming up that look hopeful.

### Huntington Area:

*Pullman Square. Both Hospitals are looking to start work soon, Marshall's Biotech Center is a 40+ million project. Work looks like it may be up by mid-summer.*

### Point Pleasant Area:

*Joint Venture between Mahan Construction and National Engineering on a bridge in*

*the town of Mason looks to be about a 30+ million job.*

### Charleston Area:

*Marmet Locks in late summer on a small scale, J. Amos looking to start new scrubber this year, Phase 2 of Thomas Hosp., +/- 20 mill. Bridge in Logan Co., Phase 2 on Nat'l guard/Reserve Center in Eleanor. Hopefully work may look up by early to mid-summer.*

### Parkersburg Area:

*Mahan has 3 bridges due to*

*start in Parkersburg area. Shutdowns complete for the year. Some work bidding in Bayer plant. New Hospital due to begin this year in Sistersville.*

### North Central Area:

*Alfred Galli Lab +/- 2 mill., Parking Building, National Engineering has 4 bridges coming up. Walker has some hospital work.*

### Wheeling Area:

*80 million Cabela's project.*

*scheduled to begin soon and employ 500-600 construction workers. All work will commence under PLA, and is a project B.E.S.T. job.*

### Beckley Area:

*Mid-Atlantic has fair size job at Mt. Hope. \$11 million Armed Forces Center at Glen Jean. Pray Const. still at Greenbrier Med. Center. \$11 million job still underway at Greenbrier East High. Outlook good on "Eco-Park" in Southern WV.*

## Wheeling Area News - Local #3

The Carpenters District Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee will soon be putting together a schedule of Journeyman upgrade classes for next winter. All upgrade classes for 2002-2003 are now completed. We'd like to thank all those that participated and attended.

Coming soon to the Wheeling area will be one of the most promising projects unveiled in quite some time. The outdoor outfitting company, Cabela's, will begin construction on it's new warehouse and superstore. The work promises to be quite involved for Union workers in the area. It is estimated that the project will employ between 500 and 600 construction workers.

The scope of the job is to build and complete the 1 million square

feet supply/warehouse and the 188,000 square feet superstore by the end of 2004.

The project is planned to be constructed and completed under a Project Labor Agreement and the contract is a Project BEST endeavor. The construction of the new Cabela's superstore will hopefully bring a time of high employment to the area. Good luck to all members in their future employment searches.

## Orphy Klempa

### Local #3 Volunteer Organizing Committee

Carpenters Local #3's volunteer organizing committee would like to request that its membership to boycott Dentists Joseph B. Grubler and Michael J. Grubler. These two Dentists have chosen non-union carpenter contractor Pozell Contracting over union carpenter contractors to build their new Dentist office on National Road in Wheeling.

We, as union carpenters, need to make other professionals understand that we will not give our hard-earned money to those who try to undermine our wages by awarding their projects to non-union carpenter contractors such as Pozell, who pay sub-standard wages to their carpenters.

We, the volunteer organizing committee, realize that this is some what of an inconvenience and a major family decision. What we don't understand is why we, as professional carpenters, would continue to support those who do not support us. Your volunteer organizing committee thanks you for your support in this effort to get the message out. Always remember: To get ones attention, get in their wallet.



### Learning New Skills

*Instructor Scott Henderson, explains seaming and fitting to a group of journeymen, during one of the solid surface certification classes held this past winter.*

*Carpenters teaching carpenters and preparing them for new experiences is the basis of our Union.*

## Putting Competition Back into the Workplace

As we have stated so many times before, the need for qualified and skilled carpenters of all specialties has never been greater. Also, the need for jobs is at an all time high. Our economy is seeing hard times and our work is suffering because of it.

Contractors are always in the market to find the most skilled craftsmen they can find for their money. It makes sense that they would want to get a carpenter that can out perform others and

keep that individual on to fill future positions. This is a trend that will not lessen with time, and it will not lessen when the economy improves.

More and more Union Carpenters will have to compete to keep their positions in the workplace. There will always be someone that works faster and better than those that came before them. This competition doesn't need to destroy our Brotherhood, on the

contrary, it could serve to drive our members to be elite in their practices...to be the very best because they must compete against the best.

It is also a time that those carpenters that have never made time to actually learn their trade will cease to exist on the jobs. Only those that strive for excellence will prevail in the workplace. Those that expect respect due to seniority and not skill shall inevitably fail.

## Journeyman Skills Updates - "JSU's"

This summer starts the beginning of the full Journeyman Skills Update training (JSU). These classes will be conducted throughout the summer in any one of our three Training Centers. Any member can attend these classes. Journeymen and Apprentices alike are encouraged to attend. Journeymen can update their current skills and apprentices can get a

better grasp on advanced subjects. Our training staff will offer classes ranging from math, estimating, blueprints, rigging, framing, formwork.

Please note that there is a feedback form on another page in this newsletter to request special training. Please take advantage of this training as it is a good time to do so since work is slow this year. If you are off of work or at a

slow point, attend some training that will help you when work kicks off again.

The Carpenters Training Center is always on the lookout for skilled, part-time instructors to assist in JSU training. If you are interested in becoming a part-time instructor for the WV Carpenters Training Center, please contact the Training Center Office or mail us a resume. There are great number of exceptionally skilled members in our state. Pass your

skill on to others and help teach a new skill to another carpenter. Express your loyalty to the Union and give back something it gave you. Pass knowledge onto others. We would love to see retirees as instructors as well. The Union has given you the opportunity to make a good living, ensure that it keeps doing so by investing your time in the future of our Union.

Odie R. Parkins Jr.  
Training Coordinator

# The WV Carpenter

## The Back Page - [Family member writes about Union workers](#)

Jordan Jenkins



My name is Jordan Jenkins; I am the photo editor of the Lewis County High School newspaper and the daughter of Mike Jenkins, a carpenter out of Local 476. I recently got to take a tour the Stonewall resort. I was impressed with the high quality of work that was done and everyone I spoke with had nothing but praise for the Union work that was done. From the moment I stepped through the door I was impressed with the workmanship that was

done from the ceiling to the dining area it was of the highest of quality. Growing up in a union house I know that "Union Pride" is very important and I feel that the resort was an excellent display of this pride.

Lewis County is welcoming its newest arrival, the Stonewall Resort. After two years of construction the 2,000 acre lodge is now open for guests. The lodge contains 198 guestrooms all complete with a window with a view of the lake. There is 14,000 square feet of conference space available in the lodge. The resort has a wide variety of activities to offer its guests. For the sportsman they have the Arnold Palmer Signature 18-hole golf course, other options are a spa, marina, restaurant, fitness facility, fishing accessibility, boat rides, and a lounge.

About 250 workers from the GA Brown Company helped in the efforts

to build the lodge. "The grand lodge, the staircase, the workmanship is wonderful. The workers are proud of their work and should be," Robin Poling said. "It (the workmanship) is of the highest quality and state of the art throughout," Jeff Kmiec said. The building of the lodge is about 75 percent complete. There was a delay because of in climate weather. "I think our tag is most appropriate to describe the lodge, close to nature far from ordinary," Kmiec said. "It (the lodge) is and will be something Lewis county and central WV can be proud of" Poling said.

The opening of the resort has added and will continue to add new job opportunities to Lewis County. "The resort is a nice facility to work at, quite a few local people are working here, and the company is good to work for" James Riley, a bell staff worker, said