

# Greater Michigan Mechanical Industry Alliance Report Special Summer Edition 2009

## 56th Annual United Association Instructor Training Program



The 56<sup>th</sup> Annual United Association (UA) Instructor Training Program (ITP), at Washtenaw Community College is well underway. As stated by UA General President William Hite, "I am reminded of the strength and longevity of this extraordinary program. We have been preparing instructors to train new generations of United Association journeymen for more than five decades. This is truly a noble endeavor, and I am grateful to all who have made this program such a success."



The United Association Training Department has once more put together classes that meet all the needs of our organization. New courses are being offered, along with variations throughout the curriculum, which are intended to make the program more relevant and up-to-date.

Along with the Instructor Training Program, the United Association International Apprentice Contest will run simultaneously with ITP week.



The United Association has a continuing concern for the high quality job performance of its members. We believe that you, the instructors who teach the apprentices and journeymen of the piping trades, are the key persons in maintaining this high level for which we have been long recognized. We are determined to retain our enviable position in this regard.



## *Registration*



Registering for classes, making changes, checking out the maps, picking up books, and most important — checking in with old friends, and making new ones, registration is definitely the busiest day during UA week.



# Block Party



## ***Training Trailers—Learning on Wheels***



## ***Residential Fire Demonstration Trailer / Welding Trailer***



## ***Medical Gas Training***

The Medical Gas Instructor course includes instruction on how to teach the codes and standards that govern correct medical gas and medical-surgical vacuum piping systems installation and testing, requirements for installer qualification, and requirements for brazer qualification in accordance with ASME Section IX.



At the end of the course, a written exam was administered. Students who successfully passed the course and exam, received the certification of a “Medical Gas Instructor of the United Association” issued by NITC—National ITC Corporation.

Pictured right — the Green House that travels to communities to teach Green procedures



## ***Elements of the Program***

The Five Year Program Instructor Training Program involves 200 hours of instruction. Each Student will receive one week (forty hours) of instruction each year for the five years. The United Association encourages local unions and instructors to plan for yearly participation in the program, without a break, until the Five Year Program is completed.

The Program is divided into two main elements of instruction, the Professional Element, which involves courses dealing with the principles and techniques of teaching; and the Applied and Technical Element, with involves courses dealing with scientific and technical subject matter related to our trade.



UA instructors receive the help needed to acquire essential speaking and listening skills for the classroom, through classroom exercises.

## ***Public Speaking***



Class exercises focus on the delivery of lecture material and conducting demonstrations.

Student instructors polish organizational and delivery skills, as well as gain a heightened awareness of the relationship between a

speaker and an audience. Student instructors were encouraged to bring materials from classes they're currently teaching as reference for class exercises. Student instructors are using Blackboard with this course.



## ***Fundamentals of Rigging***

The basic fundamentals of rigging were presented in this class. Rigging safety in basic knots and their uses, wire rope and webb slings and their applications relating to the industry were emphasized.

Signaling methods and practical, safe uses of "Rules of Thumb" in every day installations in the piping industry were also an important part of the program.



## *Structures for Learning*



Structured learning combines the need of setting objectives for what student instructors will learn and need to measure what they have learned. The first part of the course focuses on the levels of objectives in trade education, the role of setting objectives for daily instruction, the nature of behavioral objectives, identifying the elements of behavior/skills and identifying consistent standards of performance. The second part of the

course focuses on the principles of evaluating learner progress and the nature of measurement, testing and evaluation. The student instructors are learning the quality of a good test, the process of test construction, developing multiple-choice questions as well as matching/written items and avoiding bias in grading.



### *Trade Teaching Overview*

This class was the introductory professional course for



United Association (UA) Instructors. It provided student instructors with an understanding of trade education in the American education system, goals of trade education, and the responsibilities good trade teachers have in structuring a learning environment where change takes place.



UA Instructors recognize differences in learning outcomes, developed skill in the design of instruction to meet different learning needs, developed a strategy for analyzing the content requirements of trade related learning, and lesson plans to articulate their design of a learning environment. They also were exposed to the services that are current available through the UA Training Department.

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## ***Welding***



The UA's Welder Certification Program has grown at a rapid rate. A significant number of facility owners view this weld certification program as a value added commodity exclusively available through our signatory contractors. It is vitally important that our instructors pass these skills along to our apprentices and journey-workers that will prepare them for a bright



future in our industry. It is incumbent upon each of us to insure that we maintain our level of training so that the UA continues to set the standard for our industry.

## ***Candidates at the Apprenticeship Contest***



## ***Around Campus***



*L. to R.—A desperately needed correction on the ridiculously inaccurate Stanley Cup Shirt — It was the Red Wings that won this year's Stanley Cup — didn't they?, UA 190 Business Agent Al Culbreath coming in from the rain, Decisions—Decisions, Nothing else needs to be said!*



## ***Green Awareness***

Green Awareness Certification courses were designed to give attention to the specification, purchase and application of energy efficient products. The course worked to heighten the awareness of Green concept, systems, terminology and products.



Participants, after they successfully completed the program, received certification that attests to their knowledge of the emerging concepts, terminology, systems and products that are considered “Green”.

## ***Sustainable Technologies Demonstration Training Trailer***



## ***Energy Auditing and Retrofit***

This course covered how the green movement is using the energy retrofit process to meet the goal of making buildings



sustainable. All steps in the energy retrofit process are covered with emphasis on the audit and ECMs portion of the process. Also, the instruments used in the audit process as well as the engineering concepts of developing ECM were covered.

## *Hard At Work*



The United Association Instruction Training Program depends on a number of committed individuals who put tremendous time and effort into making this program a success.

Pictured above are just some of the individuals that help make this program a success.

## ***Lunchtime***

Providing lunch for the those in attendance is always an event.



## ***ITP 5K Run/Walk***

On Saturday, the first ITP 5K Run/Walk was held to benefit the UA Scholarship Fund. The participants ran on a course through the WCC main campus. Participants were awarded prizes from the local businesses. Pictured left—a Run participant. Congratulations to all the contestants, and start practicing for next year's as soon as you get home (and rested up a little from the week).

## ***UA Local 190 Instructors***



## Greater Michigan Mechanical Industry Alliance Report



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## **Congratulations UA**

Congratulations to UA General President William Hite on the amazing program here at WCC.

Also, congratulations to UA Director of Training Mike Arndt on this incredible program. Director Arndt and all the members of the UA Training Department, give the students a quality program, unequalled in the construction industry.

We know with the excellent curriculum of the UA Instructor Training Program that it has definitely been an educational one.



It's been an amazing week. Everyone is extremely happy to see the UA return to Michigan. Along with the Michigan State Pipe Trades and representatives from the Michigan Mechanical Contractors Association, we sincerely hope your stay has been a happy one.

We congratulate all on the exceptional job they do on this program, as well as all year long assisting Local Training Programs.

We hope you have a safe trip home and that we'll see you again next year!

**Bryce Mitchell, Business Manager UA Local 190**     **Sandra Miller, President Greater Michigan PMC**

**Go to  
[www.greatermichiganpmc.org](http://www.greatermichiganpmc.org)  
UA - UA Training and view thirteen years of  
UA Training Program pictures**