

# JobLink

Your link to life long learning

## A VILLAGE FOR THE KIDS

By Diane Lentz, Coordinator

The Quad Town's Safety Village located in Schererville will be a miniature representation of the local communities. Sponsored by the towns of Dyer, St. John, Highland, and Schererville, the town will feature local businesses, a residential area, and a Survive Alive House. The village will be used to teach fire, street, and water safety to children in NW Indiana. JobLink's contribution thus far has been a replica of an Oil Express built by a group of 16 students. It is the very first building completed.

This summer will see lots of activity at the village. Foundations are being poured, landscaping is being planned, and the administration building is getting its final touches.

When discussing what businesses should be represented in the Safety Village, steel had to have its place. Anyone who ever gets a job at one of mills, and then starts talking to people about working at the mill is quickly aware of how many lives are touched by the steel industry. Whether it's immediate family, neighbors, or friends—somehow the steel industry is part of their lives. And what better company to represent the industry than Ispat Inland, Inc. And if there is a steel company, then the union is there as well. United Steelworkers of America (USWA) Local 1010 will also be represented in this miniature community.

In July, JobLink students will learn about installing glass block windows, working with steel studs and siding, rolled rubber roofing, and installing a pre-hung door by building the replica of the ISPAT Inland West Annex. Then the students will be able to learn about installing a hip roof, working with steel siding, shin-

gling, aluminum wrap, window installing, and door installation by building the replica of the USWA Local 1010 building. In the early fall, a landscaping class will help design and install the landscaping for the administration building.

JobLink students are certainly doing their part to make this village a reality. When completed, the Quad Town Safety Village will be the largest of its kind in the United States. Hopefully, for years to come, children and parents will recognize the Local 1010 members' names on the plaques of the buildings that they built through their JobLink participation.



Participants in front of the JobLink-built Oil Express.

by Andy Smith, ICD  
reprinted by permission from the ICD newsletter.

A group of 25 self-empowered steelworkers recently earned an industry certification through a customized JobLink class they initiated themselves, reinforcing the Institute's foundational philosophy that workers get the most out of the Career Development Program through "ownership" – or the sense that the program belongs to them.

The ICD contract language spells out this basic premise in detail: "Experience has shown that worker growth and development are stunted when programs are mandated from above, but flourish in an atmosphere of

## CCST Classes

voluntary participation in self-designed and self-directed training and education."

That was certainly the case for the 25 craftsmen from Ispat Inland who wanted to become Certified Control Systems Technicians. The certification is available through the Instrumentation, Systems and Automation (ISA) Society, a professional development and technical training organization.

The teelworkers – instrument control technicians who represent the highest skilled electrical craftsman in the plant – turned to Steve Wagner to find out how they could get the training they wanted.

"One guy called and asked

if funding for this kind of training was the responsibility of his department," said Wagner, the Local 1010 Vice President and union appointee on the LJC. "I talked to our folks and looked at some language and we determined it was not company-required training. But it wasn't something we budgeted in the annual plan."

Wagner referred the steelworker to Coordinator Diane Lentz who developed a cost analysis of customizing the training on site and guided the ISA through the vendor approval process. Once all the details were in place, Lentz asked the LJC to

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In cooperation with The School City of Hammond



ISPAT INLAND INC.

Subsidiary of ISPAT INTERNATIONAL N.V.



Institute for Career Development



Local 1010



## From Diane's Desk

*Diane Lentz*  
*JobLink Coordinator*

### Thirteen Years Young and Still Going Strong...

In July of 2003, JobLink will begin its 14<sup>th</sup> year of providing services to Local 1010 members. It's been a great experience for everyone involved with JobLink. To date, there are 4,897 individuals who have taken one or more classes at JobLink.

I'd like to share some of the information about JobLink from the year **2002**.

In **2002**, JobLink had 995 Local 1010 members participating in the program. Those 995 individuals took multiple classes—actually using 3, 562 classroom seats. In addition, 500 vouchers were applied for under Tuition Assistance Program (TAP). Each of these vouchers can represent one or more courses.

The areas of study for JobLink students were: 14% in basic academic skills, 13% personal development skills, 61% in pre-technical skills, and 12% in TAP.

We continue to see Local 1010 members obtain certification, degrees and skills in computer, residential wiring, wood-working, small engine repair and many other areas of study. The joint support from the leadership of the USWA, Local 1010 and Ispat Inland, Inc. enables JobLink to continually meet the challenges and opportunities that each new year presents.

Local 1010 members, I commend you for utilizing these wonderful negotiated educational opportunities.

## ...Viewpoints...

*Steve Wagner*  
*Local 1010 Representative*



Frequently I'm asked, "How do I get a new class started?"

There is a simple way of accomplishing this. First, you should check with Joblink's coordinator, Diane Lentz, to see if the class is scheduled to be offered later in the year. If no one has started an interested list for this new class, the individual requesting the course then goes back to the plant and solicits individuals to sign the interested list at Joblink. When there are five signatures on the interested list, the coordinator can begin the process of researching whether or not the class is possible.

Diane will verify that we have adequate funding in our annual budget to run the class, and she will check with the Local Joint Subcommittee members, Joe Medellin

representing Inland and me, representing Local 1010, to ensure that this class falls within the type of classes provided for in our annual education plan. If this is true for both of these areas, then Diane begins the process of locating an instructor, finding available room space, and marketing the course.

After the behind-the-scenes work is accomplished, the class will appear in one of the three catalogs mailed to your homes or it will be advertised with flyers on plant bulletin boards. In addition, Local 1010 members whose names are on the interested list will have a flyer sent to their homes. In order for the class to run, there must be enough students registered for the class to meet the required minimum established by JobLink and the instructor.

By chance if it is decided that we couldn't offer the class for monetary reasons, then JobLink will try to include the class in our next year's budget. It may sound a little complicated but after using this method for over thirteen years...it has proven to work out quite well!

*Links* is a student publication of the Bernard Kleiman JobLink Learning Center  
**Student Editors: Joe Woessner and Tom Zmigrocki**      **Contributing Editor: Marcia L. Taylor**  
**JobLink Subcommittee: Diane Lentz, Joe Medellin, Steve Wagner**

# MY TURN: HILARIO GONZALEZ

*by Hilario Gonzalez*  
*Retiree, 2BOF*

When I found out about JobLink, I couldn't believe I could actually pick from numerous classes that were offered for free. All I had to do was invest my time.

JobLink has always played a very important role in my life. I acquired a desire for learning very young in life, whether it was for monetary gain or for self-satisfaction, I enjoy learning to the fullest.

I retired from Inland in December of 2002 and by then I had completed over twenty different classes at JobLink from computers to bricklaying to woodworking and even a Dale Carnegie course and classes in cooking. I have really enjoyed taking classes. Now that I am retired, I still take woodworking classes as a hobby, which is very rewarding. I have numerous pieces of furniture in my house: a Mission-style sofa, a grandfather clock, a bed, and several tables.

As I mentioned before, I have always had a desire to learn. I feel education is very important in today's world. It is becoming increasingly essential to have more than a high school diploma to function fully in our society. From computers to cell phones to ATM's to grocery shopping, we must continue to learn more skills to have more knowledge if we are to be successful and be able to keep up with the changes in order to fully benefit and enjoy the most our community has to offer.

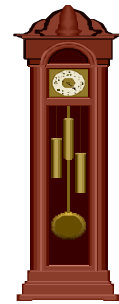
Education helps us to fully develop the gifts that God

has given us. It has always annoyed me how we are always pushing our children to get a good education and learn all they can, while we could be teaching them by example and show them that learning is part of everyday living.

I seriously believe that when I stop or give up learning, I will stop living. I plan on continuing to attend JobLink for a long time to come. Sometimes I fail to understand why not all steelworkers use JobLink when there is so much to gain and nothing to lose. Live a little, take a class!

## Woodworking Exhibit!

*Indiana University Northwest is featuring an exhibit of many of the woodworking pieces produced in Brian Swann's classes here at JobLink. They're beautiful pieces and worth seeing. Plan on making the trip to IUN this fall.*



## Summer Specials at JobLink



Here's a class you've been asking for: **Drywall!** Learn to install, tape, mud and cut outlets. **Wednesdays, July 9 through August 14** Students will drywall a gallery at IUN.

Another community learning project: **Build and learn! The Quad Town Safety Village Project** **Build a miniature version of Inland's West Annex** **Thursday, from July 10 through August 28** **Or from September 4 to October 23, build a miniature version of Local 1010.**

**All of these classes meet from 9:00 to 12:00 or 4:00 to 7:00**

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## Steelworkers are the Stars!

by Marcia L. Taylor

Creative juices are flowing, and talent is flowering in JobLink's joint writing and acting projects. A play has been produced and a training videotape is in the making.

Last February a cast of ten presented "A Day in the Life of the Mill" for the Safety Sharing Day. This short multi-media performance was the culmination of months of work by the union safety committee, headed by Dorine Godinez in collaboration with JobLink. Additionally, a number of safety advocates and volunteer writers, both active and retired, dedicated their time and talents to this project. Jim Spasoff, of the 4BOF, handled the lighting and props.

"A Day in the Life" begins with a shift horn at seven and the unraveling of a "typical" day in the mill- from getting a line up to leaving the locker room. But in between the audience is treated to a solid safety meeting complete with an effective but short video, a showdown at a potentially dangerous work site, an accident and subsequent investigation, two pantomimed scenarios and a poem and slide show. If the evaluations can count as a theater critiques, the group played to rave reviews!

The same skits were performed this past May at the district safety conference held at the Radisson in Merrillville. You could say that they took the play "off-Broadway." (well, Broadway Avenue, that is)

Another project with steelworker talent is a video that will be used for plant-wide training on harassment in the

workplace. The Civil Rights Committee commissioned a group of steelworker writers and actors to write and act in a number of scenarios of incidents depicting harassment. Bill Staniec is the videographer and editor on the project. The videotape will have good exposure - harassment training should begin this summer and the video will play a prominent part.

JobLink's writing cadre consists of: Bill Corrigan, John Maczack, Jeff Manes, Debra Murrell, Joe Orellana, Jerry



L to R: M. Coleman, J. Gutierrez, J. Danner, and G. Marshall, standing.

Torres and John Walker. The acting troupe: Raul Alfaro, Jeff Danner, Randy Hendrix, John Gelon, Laura Gogolek, Joe Gutierrez, Mary Lou Mamrila, Jeff Manes, Greg Marshall, Debra Murrell, Betty Pompy, Cesar Roque, Jerry Torres, John Walker, Seretha Woods with special appearances by Emilio Garcia and Ernie Gutierrez.

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## Staff News Who's Doing What at JobLink?

by Marcia Taylor, Instructor

JobLink's Roland Alvarez, the small appliance repair instructor who operates an appliance repair service in Hammond, was selected to attend a dinner with President Bush. Four small business owners from Indiana along with representatives from all fifty states dined on filet mignon while listening to speeches by the president and other dignitaries this past May.

Roland's wife, Lucia, received a call from a Bush staff member and passed on the message to him. "She couldn't believe it. She was really excited about it. So was I. It's not every day you get a call from the White House," commented Roland. But it wasn't a complete surprise because in September of 2002, Roland received an award from the National Business Advisory.

Roland's wife accompanied him to Washington and

to the black tie affair. The dinner was part of the NRCC's Business Advisory Council Annual Board Meeting which took place on May 21 and 22. On the second day, a breakfast was held in honor of the business owners. Roland was presented with a commemorative watch at that time. Congratulations, Roland! Way to go!



Rolando and Lucia at the gala dinner.

## Personal Computing: Computers for College

by Tom Zmigrocki, Plant 1 Machine Shop



The students and faculty of JobLink have always been ready to donate their time and effort to help work on community projects. Christmas in April, rehabbing an East Chicago home, and fixing up the Girl Scout House are just a few examples. These projects offered great hands-on experiences where students could put their classroom learning to the test.

This year JobLink's Build a PC class will put together ten entry level systems that will be given to needy high school students graduating with high grade point averages and going to college this fall.

Robert Smith, Program Specialist with the ICD, wrote the grant and got financial backing from the Verizon Corporation. Bethlehem Steel and Midwest Steel are also building ten systems to be used in the program. The Urban League of Northwest Indiana is receiving applications from students who are academically eligible and college bound this fall. The recipients of the computers will be randomly selected from that group.

The class, under the direction of Joe Zaragoza, will assemble the 1.3 gigabyte systems with a 40 gig hard drive, a CD burner and a 56K modem. The computers will have Microsoft XP Professional and Office XP Standard installed on them; Microsoft has provided a discount on the software. Each system will come with a new keyboard, mouse, HP printer and a donated monitor. Everything the students will need to have a completely functional system.



Each recipient must attend eight hours of class training at JobLink before they can receive their computer. Jill Hammel, who will teach the class, wants to make sure they have the basic skills needed to use their new computers properly. They will be taught how to use the programs on their computer, work with files, navigate and do searches on the Internet and how to properly maintain their computers. This cram course is designed to give them a positive start as they enter college.

A special thanks goes to the following students who are participating in this build class: Dave Alvarado, Victor Carrillo, Felix Escamilla, Pedro Gonzalez, Steve Gwizdalski, Mike Johnson, Jerome Malone, Terry Mitchell, Ramon Ramirez, Loretta Roque, Ira Wells, Joe Woessner and Tom Zmigrocki. Once again JobLink students prove

## Room for Growth

by Jill Hammel, Instructor



Do you need to get online and check your Fidelity account? Or maybe you need to practice your keyboarding skills. Room A at JobLink is available to students as a computer

lab. In addition to doing research on the Internet and brushing up on typing skills, students can do interactive tutorials in Windows and Internet Explorer. Maybe you've taken the speed reading class and would like to keep up those skills. Work on the Speed Reader program. If you arrive at JobLink for your computer class and you are early, why not use Room A to do some of those hands-on exercises and get in a little extra practice? All the computers in the lab have Internet access which makes it very convenient for students who have registered for TelSim or ALEKS. And the best part of all is that there is an instructor available as a resource or to help out if you experience any technical difficulties. Any questions? Call Jill at 399-1712.

## Joblink Reminder!

*JobLink will be closed for  
the 4th of July holiday!*



*Cont. from page 1, CCST*

thorize the class, which it did. "Once that happened, we were able to get class started at JobLink," Lentz said. "The class was seven session, three hours each. The steelworkers formed study groups and really supported each other. It's kind of a special group – they were so very motivated and sort of self-energized. They knew what they wanted to get out of this class in order to meet their personal and professional goals. This is a certification that can help them in their current job, as well as, provide a retirement opportunity."

The entire class passed a four-hour proctored exam to become Certified Control Systems Technicians.

"It was a rewarding group to work with," Lentz said. "It really reinforced the notion that this is their program and that we're here for them. This is a perfect example of the program responding to their specific needs."



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Randy Lea	[2 Cold Strip]
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Gail Richardson	[3 Cold Strip]
Phillip Rodriguez	[3 Cold Strip]
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Bob Smiley	[MHS]
Gene Sufana	[MMD]
John Sumichrast	[76" Hot Strip]
Tom Zmigrocki	[Shop Services]

**LEARNING TO LEARN** *by Marcia L. Taylor, Instructor*

**How well do you know JobLink?**

**Take this quiz and win big money!!**

**JOBLINK JEOPARDY**

**PEOPLE**

For \$100  
 The first computer teacher at JobLink

For \$200  
 The reason JobLink is named after Bernard Kleiman.

For \$400  
 Besides Diane, the only person who has been on the JobLink subcommittee since its inception.

**PLACES**

For \$100  
 Where the first electric wiring classes were given.

For \$200  
 The location of the Habitat House we built.

For \$400  
 The name of the business JobLink built at the Safety Village.

**EVENTS**

For \$100  
 The year Bernard Kleiman lent us his name.

For \$200  
 The year we opened our doors.

For \$400  
 The year JobLink received a national award: The Malcolm Knowles Award.

If you think you know all of the answers, call Marcia at 4630 with them. All awards must be redeemed by July 15th. You must be over 104 years of age to accept the monetary award. All awards will be given in Monopoly money. If you actually thought we had the money to pay these awards out, you really don't know JobLink at all.