

Eastern Washington Machinists News



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Union Teams with Triumph for Spokane Career Day

There are job openings in the aerospace industry, now and for the foreseeable future, District 751 Machinists told students at North Central High School in Spokane.

Eastern Washington Business Rep Steve Warren and Local 86 officer Gary Swartz spoke at the school's Career Day in November. So did Kevin Quinn, the Spokane project director for the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee.

"Our goal was to help engage, excite and educate these students about our field," Swartz said. "With a rapidly aging workforce, and a near-record retirement boom forecast over the next 10 years, reaching out to the next generation of youth is the right thing to do."

A career in the manufacturing trades is



Gary Swartz, a Union Steward at Triumph Composites, shows off one of the aerospace parts Triumph workers build during a talk on the aerospace industry at North Central High School's Career Day.

a viable – and attractive – option for many young people, the Machinists told the students.

"Most of the students may not attend traditional college and are looking at other occupations," Warren said.

Apprenticeships are one option. Quinn

discussed the benefits of earning while you learn through an AJAC-sponsored apprenticeship program.

Warren said he discussed the kind of training that's required to get into different aerospace manufacturing careers, including

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Union Recognizes Four Local 1951 Stewards

Four union Stewards at Pexco were recognized in October for their handling of recent grievances and their participation in Guide Dogs of America fundraisers. From left, Stewards Manuel Balderas, Dave Bailey, Brett Travis and Jennine 'Sam' Jensen, and Business Rep Steve Warren.



Eastern Locals Deliver Record Guide Dogs Check



Eastern Washington union officers presented a check for \$8,766.76 to Guide Dogs of America at a recent District 751 Council meeting in Seattle. Presenting the check – which represented a record fundraising total for the three Eastern Washington locals – were (from left) Business Rep Steve Warren, District Secretary-Treasurer Susan Palmer, Jennine Jensen, Ken Howard, Chris Seigfried, Craig Smoot, Jim O'Brien, Gary Swartz, Allen Eveland, District President Tom Wroblewski and Fred McNeil.

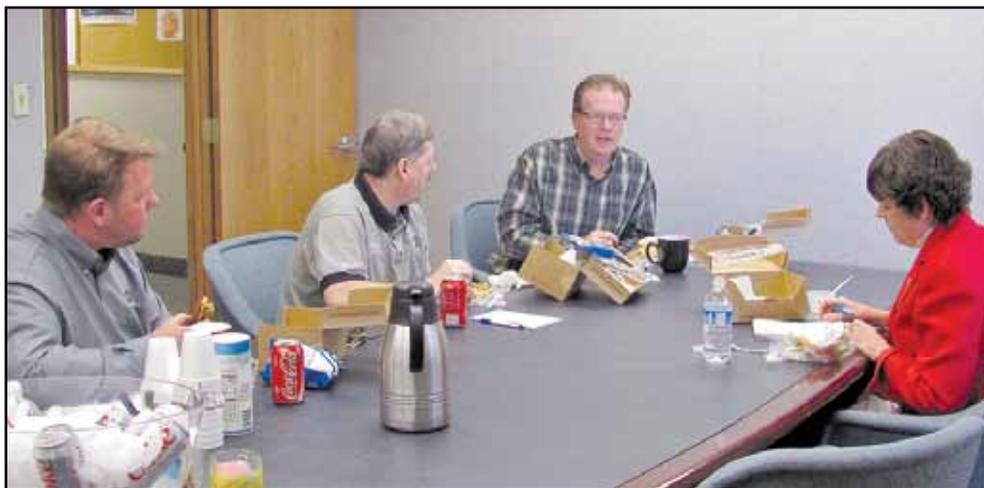
State Labor Leader Visits with Local 86

One of top officials in the Washington state labor movement visited Local 86 officers in Spokane to get direct feedback from local lodge leaders.

Washington State Labor Council Secretary-Treasurer Lynne Dodson met with Business Rep Steve Warren, Legislative Committee delegate Gary Swartz and District Council delegate Allan Eveland at the Spokane Union Hall.

The Local 86 officers told Dodson that the top priorities for Eastern Washington Machinists are getting support for transportation improvements, statewide apprenticeship programs and expanded aerospace training.

For her part, Dodson talked about the important role local lodges



Lynne Dodson, (right), secretary-treasurer of the Washington State Labor Council, takes notes as Business Rep Steve Warren outlines priorities for Eastern Washington Machinists during an October meeting in Spokane with Local 86 officers Allen Eveland and Gary Swartz.

play statewide, and she briefed the Local 86 leaders on the new chapter of WA-YELL that is now forming in Spokane.

WA-YELL is the Washington Young Emerging Labor Leaders, a group intended to get young workers more involved in union activities.

District 751 is a strong supporter of WA-YELL in Western Washington,

Warren noted. "It would be great to have a strong Eastern Washington contingent too," he said.

To learn more about WA-YELL, Eastern Washington Machinists can e-mail the group at shaunie@Washingtonyell.org

Members Get Well Wishes in Retirement

Congratulations to the following members who have recently retired.

Local 86

- Aleksandr Shevchenko (Sept. 30) ASC

Local 1123

- James Galloway (Sept. 30) – Alcoa
- Donald Weyer (Jan. 31) – Grand Coulee Dam

Local 1951

- Rod Huff (Aug. 31) – Pexco
- Darryl Jensen (Dec. 31) – SCBID
- Charles Lawler (Sept. 30) – Pexco
- Robert Welch (Dec. 31) – Parsons
- Dan Wohl (Oct. 31) – Brands Truck Repair



Members at Pexco attending the Dec. 5 meeting got to wish Charles Lawler well in retirement. L to R: Dave Bailey, Jennine (Sam) Jensen, Wayne Griffith, Manny Balderas (behind) and retiree Charles Lawler.



Local 1123 President Jim O'Brien (l) presented Jim Galloway with a Machinists watch and wished him well in his retirement from Alcoa.

Photo right: Staff Assistant Ken Howard (l) congratulates Dan Wohl on his recent retirement from Brands Truck Repair. Dan served as Union Steward for more than a decade before retiring the end of October.



Union Steward Allen Eveland (r) congratulates Aleksandr Shevchenko on his retirement from ASC as Jim Awbery and another co-worker look on.



Staff Assistant Ken Howard (l) congratulated Rod Huff on his retirement from Pexco last fall.

Union Teams with Triumph for Spokane Career Day

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certifications and journeyman-level skills needed for specific jobs.

Swartz talked about job opportunities at Triumph in Spokane and at Boeing in Puget Sound. He brought samples of the aerospace parts Machinists build at Triumph, including dash boards for 737s, floor panels from 777s, air ducts from 787s and carbon fiber clips Airbus uses on A380s.

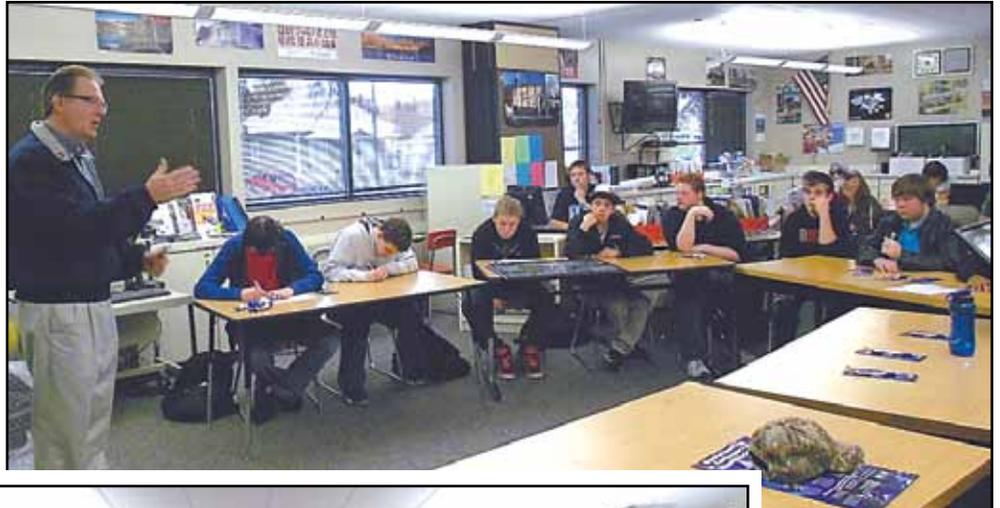
The samples – along with toy airplanes provided by Triumph management and Machinists Union Frisbees and yo-yos from the District 751 Organizing Department – were a hit, Swartz said.

“The young women in the class were especially engaged and interactive,” he said.

Triumph and the Machinists are working together to help recruit a new generation of aerospace workers in Eastern Washington, Swartz said.

“Both corporate and labor institutions can agree there is an impending skilled labor crisis coming down the pipe in the aerospace industry,” Swartz said. He said he’s talked with

Triumph’s Spokane president, Tim Stevens, about doing more joint union/company Career



Above: Business Rep Steve Warren discusses training and certifications needed for jobs in aerospace at a Career Day event at North Central High School in Spokane.



Left: Gary Swartz, Business Rep Steve Warren and Kevin Quinn talk to high school students about potential jobs in the aerospace industry.

Day programs at other Inland Northwest high schools.

“We’re available in the future should the local high schools ask again,” Swartz said.

Machinists Help to Get Out the Vote East of the Cascades

Eastern Washington Machinists did their part to help elect worker-friendly candidates during the 2012 elections. Photo right (L to R): Darrin Truitt, Gary Swartz, U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell, Bradley Warren, John Warren, Samantha Warren and Business Rep Steve Warren attended Cantwell’s “Jobs for Washington” rally at the Lincoln Center in Spokane.



Left: Staff Assistant Ken Howard attended Cantwell’s rally at the Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 598 Union Hall in Pasco. Cantwell and other Democrats stressed pro-worker themes at the campaign stops.



Machinists, Candidates Mingle at Spokane Rally

More than 75 Local 86 Machinists and members of their families came out for the 20th Spokane Labor Rally on Oct. 17.

The event allowed Spokane-area union members to mix and mingle with labor-endorsed candidates for local and statewide offices, including Jay Inslee, who successfully ran for governor.

“It was great to meet with fellow members outside of work to talk about political issues that involve us all,” said Business Rep Steve Warren.

“We make it a really fun, social event where the candidates are relaxed, our members feel like they have input and everyone walks away energized, a little more educated and ready to vote for people who are going to stand up for working families,” added Beth Thew, the secretary/treasurer of the Spokane Regional Labor Council.

To that end, Local 86 members served more than 2,000 beers to people at the rally, along with packets of information about the benefits of belonging to the Machinists Union. Warren thanked volunteers Carl Andrews, Allen Eveland, John Pabst, Gary Swartz, Darrin Truitt and John Warren for manning the Machinists Beer Booth.

“It was a terrific success and we had an excellent turnout for the Machinists Union,” Warren said.

District 751’s Legislative Committee – which includes Swartz from Local 86 – strongly endorsed Inslee.

Inslee has represented both Eastern



Local 86 volunteers (front) Allen Eveland, Gary Swartz and Kenya Conway man the Machinists booth with (back) John Pabst and Carl Andrews.

and Western Washington in Congress, and has long been a strong advocate for Washington’s aerospace industry. He’s stood up for nuclear industry workers at Hanford as well, said Swartz.

In contrast, Republican Rob McKenna fought against minimum wage increases in Washington, and advocated gutting the state’s workers compensation system, even though voters

have twice rejected plans to privatize the system, which is what McKenna favors.

McKenna also received millions of dollars from the Republican Governors Association, which said that McKenna would pursue Wisconsin-style anti-union agenda.

“When you compared Inslee’s support for our industries with McKenna, there was really no question,” Swartz said. “Inslee is good news for us.”



Inslee mingles with labor activists.



Local 86 Steward Allen Eveland (left) talks with union members Sheri Johnson and Raechle Miller at the Spokane Labor Rally.



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Kenworth Machinists Ratify 1-Year Deal

Machinists Union members working at Kenworth Sales in Spokane have ratified a new one-year agreement. The 19 members voted to accept the agreement by more than 90 percent on Nov. 30.

One of the top issues was preserving the Automotive Pension Plan. The new agreement does that, and specifies that all pension surcharges will be covered by the employer. The contract also maintained other benefits and provided a 40-cent-an-hour wage increase.

“Everyone feels pretty good about the contract and getting a bit of a raise is always a good thing,” said Scott Hanks, who participated in the bargaining sessions.

The Machinists at Kenworth ensure that the new and used trucks sold at their facility are in top working condition, and operate a full-service shop open seven days a week, covering two shifts to provide maximum service to their customers.

They work on all kinds of trucks -- including Peterbilt, Freightliner, Mack and Volvo -- do regular fleet maintenance for various companies, and do repairs and maintenance for independent truckers.



Above: Kenworth Sales' bargaining team of Ric Petersen and Kip Ekker discuss issues with Business Rep Steve Warren, Scott Hanks and Greg Rash during a negotiation session.



Left: Greg Rash (l) and Scott Hanks count the ballots on the new one-year agreement at Kenworth Sales, which was ratified by more than 90 percent.