



TRAINING CENTER TIMES

The Quarterly Update of Northwest Carpenters Institute

DuPont Training Center



The new Carpenters Training Center at DuPont, WA.

Commissioning the new training center in DuPont will be the primary focus for NWCI this summer. The months of June, July, and August are progressively filled with activities related to the project, with time in September to dial-in operations and add the finishing touches in preparation for classes in

October. In addition to setting up the office, shop, and classrooms, NWCI staff, in collaboration with the design team, is selecting artwork and visual displays to install throughout the facility. "It is truly an honor to be part of this (artwork) committee", says Lisa Marx, who works in the Outreach (Continued on page 4)

IN THIS ISSUE...

What's New...



Training centers are using technology in a variety of innovative and productive ways like reducing waste and increasing student engagement.

2



Leadership courses are seeing a big increase in participation from journeymen and apprentices, and new upgrade courses are addressing changes in the construction industry.

2

Looking Ahead...



The increase in regional demand for carpenters has put all of NWCI's training centers into high gear, and the people on the front lines are answering the call.

3



New training facilities means changes to assignments and staffing, and a vacancy in the Education Technology Department that was recently filled.

3

"I thank you for all that you do and the hard work you put in every day."

Bob Susee - in his address to staff at All Hands

Expansion 2.0; Mt. Vernon Is On Deck

The last time a training center was dedicated in Mt. Vernon Henry "Scoop" Jackson was an up and coming U.S. Senator for Washington. If you don't know who Scoop was, don't feel bad, it just means the North Puget Sound training center was likely built before you were born, even if you're 40. It's also likely that it was never intended to hold the volume

of classes, with all the related equipment and material that it accommodates today. Well, that's about to change. The North Puget Sound training center is moving to a new building five miles North and it's the biggest training center ever for the Carpenters Employers Apprenticeship Training Trust. (Watch for updates in the next issue of Training Center Times)



Embracing Technology: Training Centers Are All In

It's 7:00 am at the Carpenters' training center in Renton. Jesus Romero welcomes the first-period apprentices in his Basics of Carpentry class. The apprentices are attending the first class of their four-year apprenticeship. After introductions, Jesus opens his iPad and mirrors the screen onto the 55" t.v. at the front of the classroom so all his students can follow along with him when he opens up the digital version of the Apprentice Handbook, that he accesses online, to review apprenticeship policies and guidelines. After he's done he hands out a single page for his students to sign that indicates they agree to abide by the contents of the handbook. It also

provides a place to sign for a photo release. In the past, these signature lines would be located on the last page of a printed handbook.

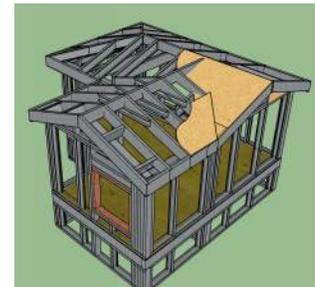
Printing the handbook is no longer necessary. iPads, Apple TV's, MiraCast, and similar types of technology are used instead, which means the hardware, software, and networks are in place, and the staff is properly trained. "We cut down on paper, toner, and we don't have to spend time making copies", which frees up time for other tasks", said Cindy Gaudio, Coordinator at the Renton training center. Renton, like

Continued on page 4



Above: Scott Moorman working with apprentices using an iPad to layout a project for the Metal Framing Basics class at the Kent Training Center.

Below: 3-D Sketchup model of the Structural Framing class project.



What's Going Down on the Streets of Spokane?

John Roberts knows a thing or two about keeping pace with the industry, so it's no surprise he's scheduling training for a long-time signatory contractor in Spokane. "Bouten is a third generation family owned company that primarily performs Hospital projects", John said in a recent email, so he's quick to set up the ICRA courses that Bouten is looking to fill with local union carpenters.

Gabriel Garrido, an instructor in Spokane chimes in, "It's great to see the demand for ICRA training as well as PCI requesting CPR training." The contractors are filling the classes and that's, "a definite positive", says Gabe.

The increase in continuing education classes in addition to the apprenticeship classes has been made possible, in part, due to the addition of a new classroom in Spokane. The added space is an indication of, "...the positive direction we're taking here in Spokane", says Gabe.

The use of iPads is also contributing to the reduction of printing hard copies for class activities. Similar to Renton, Spokane is eliminating the need to print tests and quizzes by transitioning to the Socrative app used on the student iPads. "I'm looking forward to using the Socrative app with the iPads to administer tests and quizzes", said Gabe.

North Puget Sound: Girders, ProCore, iPads...and...Run!

Roy Rodgers once said, "Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there!" One thing's for sure, the crew at the NPS training center isn't going to get run over! They're running on all cylinders and picking up speed, using technology to streamline everything from office processes to instruction, banging out class projects for long-term use, developing 3D models to use as instructional tools, increasing Journeyman upgrade classes, teaming up with Outreach on pre-apprenticeship classes, and working with industry partners on the new building. And if you visit the NPS crew they're always ready with the coffee and Costco muffins to keep you going!

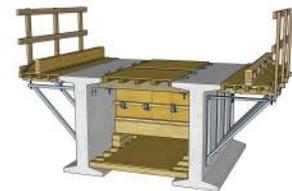
After you finish your coffee and muffin, head out to the shop and check out the girders for the Anatomy of a Bridge class. "Students and instructors all worked together to build, pour, and strip the AOB props", said Brandon Bell, an instructor at the NPS training center. "This was a great project for the students and took a huge effort for everyone to execute." The girders will be used for AOB classes where apprentices will build bridge deck and diaphragm forms as part of their training. Brandon knows the long-term benefit and is clearly proud of the results of this team effort. "And they look great." Said Bell.

Continued on page 5



Above: New bridge girder sections ready to be used for Anatomy of a Bridge classes at NPS.

Below: The 3D model for the AOB class project on the student iPad.



A New Addition to the Education Technology Department

The increase in the use of technology in the construction industry has prompted NWCI to acquire competent, capable talent to support the implementation and use of hardware and software across the organization. Addison Combs was the obvious choice to fill that need. Combs, 23, started in the Ed Tech Department last month, filling a position vacated months earlier. Aaron Combs, the Ed Tech Department Coordinator is pleased to have Addison on the team. "Addison is a valuable asset to the Ed Tech

Department", said Combs. The addition of a new training center at DuPont plus doubling of the student iPads at every training center placed a significant workload on the Department. Combs continued, "His expertise with technology and IT support is a great fit as the industry and our organization transition to the digital jobsite." For his part, Addison is already making a lot of instructors' lives less stressful. He's resolved issues with hardware and is developing templates for instructors to use in classroom

applications like ProCore and Sketchup Viewer.

Addison relocated from Florida to Washington to attend the UW where he received a bachelor's degree in Mathematics, including extensive computer programming. Upon graduation he went to work in the tech industry for two and half years before joining the NWCI team. Welcome Addison!



**DuPont
(Continued)**

department for NWCI. Lisa’s expertise in marketing, previously for Harley Davidson Corporation, is an example of the depth and breadth of professional experience of NWCI staff.

Working together for a common product or goal is also characteristic of carpenters. “It would be good for us to collaborate with the design person in charge throughout this whole process”, said Cal Swan, an instructor at NWCI. Cal has an extensive collection of hand tools and is coordinating the tool displays throughout the new training center. Kristen Douglas of American Design Firm is the consultant for the interior design work “We love the idea of the old tools and wood molds to be able to utilize for artwork”, says Douglas. Using artwork and displays is “going to provide an overall pleasing look and give a lot of interest to the building.” She said.



Chris Buselmeier, Cindy Gaudio, and Dustin Gregory review plans of the equipment layout for the door hardware class at the new DuPont Carpenters Training Center.

**Technology
(Continued)**

apprentices with iPads while in class to access course materials through applications like ProCore and SketchUp View.

The Training Centers are also staying current with industry trends. Recent advancements in screw fastener and adhesive technology have been the catalyst of the mass timber movement.

Mass Timber is a method using wood as the primary material to build structures up to 18 stories tall. Mass Timber is a great alternative to concrete and steel. It’s become a favorite of architects for its form and function, and developers, for reducing construction time, mess, and noise, all which apply directly to bottom line results.

NWCI is preparing to train carpenters to erect tall wood buildings by developing an eight-hour introductory course. The primary structural component of tall wood buildings is Cross-Laminated Timber (CLT).

The course introduces carpenters to the benefits of Mass Timber along with methods of handling, erecting, fastening, and securing CLT. Class participants practice rigging, including installation of pick-points, and use screws and hardware to connect CLT components together.

The first class is planned for Fall/Winter, 2019

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**



**DuPont Grand
Opening**

The Grand Opening of the new Carpenters Training Center at DuPont is going to be a major event you won’t want to miss. Dates and details of the event are coming soon!



RTC Graduation

Apprentices that have registered at Renton Technical College are allowed to participate in the School’s commencement ceremony held in June. This year it will be held 6:00pm, Thursday June 20th at ShoWare Center in Kent



North Puget Sound (Continued)

The Anatomy of a Bridge project is typical of how the NPS operates. Like staff at other training centers, they're all in when it comes to delivering training. And that delivery is improving all the time with all the instructors and staff embracing technology for a variety of tasks. Greg Brady, the coordinator at NPS touts the advantages of digital documents. "We no longer use the binders for our JATC meetings. That alone has saved hours for our admins." And the transition doesn't stop there as he uses iPads for interviews, too. "Not only does it save paper, but it also eliminates any errors that might occur adding the scores" said Brady. He also likes the idea of using the iPads in the Printreading classes because it aligns with the trend in the construction industry of electronic data and information sharing in real-time.

In the classrooms instructors use the technology to improve student engagement and trade time spent making paper copies for instructional time using the datavaults in the shop. "Going paperless is a definitely a big part of this" says Karen Andrews, CWI instructor at NPS. "When I teach a basics class I refer the students to the huddle screen." Instead of printing 12 copies of the prints for every class, Andrews has laminated five copies that she

reuses. The combination of the 3D model on the huddle screen and the laminated drawings reduces costs and increases student engagement. The classroom is one place she's looking forward to increasing the use of iPads and the interactive apps. "I'll be using a lot more of the apps for the classroom", said Andrews, "To me, it's a way of involving the students more and avoiding that glazed over look (from) long PowerPoints." And she's right. Research indicates that retention and the ability to recall information improves among learners when instructors use a combination of activities to deliver content.

That's exactly what instructor Greg Vanderwerff is doing with his apprentices in the Equipment Orientation class. Greg uses ProCore on the student iPad to conduct equipment inspections. "It's been working great. Very streamlined and easy to do. Plus, it gives the apprentices time on some technology." Time on technology is generally not a concern with the typical apprentice. Opening, using, and closing apps comes naturally, and they are quick to jump in and learn apps like ProCore. ProCore is software that has become very popular in the construction industry

including signatory contractors. Contractors are glad to see NWCI implementing the use of iPads, particularly with ProCore which consolidates all project documents and data in one location and connects the entire project team, which means changes to drawings and similar communication happens in real-time, and items like daily reports, safety inspections, and photo records are accessible as well.

Eric Torset, an instructor at NPS, is taking ProCore a step further by having Addison Combs, a new member of the Ed Tech team at NWCI, create forms in ProCore for his Equipment Orientation class, effectively using the technology to prepare apprentices in the latest jobsite tools. "The equipment check-off list that the student is using (on the iPad) not only saves paper, but gives them experience in using the documents in the ProCore app."

Greg Brady is looking forward to the new facility. He's already planning welding and scaffold classes and we'll "...run a few sessions before the grand opening" said Brady. His word choice is not surprising; *run*. Perfect.



The Final Word

It wouldn't be right to wrap up the very first publication of *Training Center Times* without a shout-out to all the staff at NWCI. Regardless of where they report in the morning, their job duties or title, if they drive 5 miles or 50, they strive to do their best to serve the people and organizations represented by the Carpenters-Employers Apprenticeship Training Trust.

People from outside the organization, such as apprentices, consistently report experiences with staff as good and that staff are pleasant, helpful, and professional. "The

instructors do a good job. I mean, it's pretty obvious they really want us to succeed," said Kyle Anderson, a first year apprentice. The Program Specialists and other admins (you know who you are!) who keep the system running smoothly are like the heartbeat of the organization, without them everything comes to a standstill. Coordinators wear a few different hats, principal, counselor, boss, and cheerleader, at all hours, everyday. The Director and executive staff are the best, and *that's* the final word.



Above: The All-Hands meeting is a favorite of the NWCI staff. There's updates, guest speakers, training, lots of good laughs, and good food for the crew! The next All-Hands is 9/27/2019

Training Center Times is a publication of NWCI, 20474 72nd Ave. S., Kent, WA. 98032. www.nwci.org For informational purposes only. The opinions expressed are those of contributing authors and not NWCI or its affiliates. All rights reserved. © 6/12/2019

TRAINING CENTER TIMES

20474 72nd Ave. S
Kent, WA 98372

Online Edition