

6304 W Development Dr. · Peoria, IL 61604

309-633-1353 · FAX 309-633-1291 · www.steamfitters353.com

Evan R. Wooding, Bus. Mgr.

***Carrier Building Services**1601 W. Detweiller Drive
Peoria, IL 61615
309-692-5151***Com-Tech Holdings, Inc.**30068 Illinois Route 9
Mackinaw, IL 61755
309-359-3084***Commercial Irrigation & Turf**109 Commercial Drive
East Peoria, IL 61611
309-698-3011***Commercial Mechanical, Inc.**50 First Street
Dunlap, IL 61525
309-243-7768***DH/Mechanical****1301 N Country Lane
Peoria, IL 61604
309-339-2489***J.C. Dillon Inc.**1515 W Luthy Drive
Peoria, IL 61612
309-689-1596***Diversified Mechanical Inc****329 N. Western Ave.
Peoria, IL 61604
309-637-2212***Dries Brothers**5001 N Renwood
Peoria, IL 61614
309-691-4535***Entec Services, Inc.**4300 Entec Drive
Bartonville, IL 61607
309-697-2122***General Power Constr. Co.**901 S. Bosch Road
Peoria, IL 61607
309-698-4000***H&S Mechanical (WBE)**6100 Washington
Bartonville, IL 61607
Ph. 309-696-7066
Fax 309-697-2131***Illinois Mechanical Service & Design****5431 N Galena Rd
Peoria, IL 61616
309-713-3640**Illinois Piping Corp**2323 SW Washington Street
Peoria, IL 61602
309-674-6700***Johnson Controls, Inc.**3850 N Main
East Peoria, IL 61611
309-427-2800**Mechanical, Inc.**809 W Detweiller Dr
Peoria, IL 61615
815-235-1955***Mechanical Services, Inc.**7800 N Pioneer Court
Peoria, IL 61615
309-693-4222**Merit Mechanical****8706 W. Bartell Drive
Mapleton, IL 61547
309-696-4552**O'Brien Brothers Inc.**1604 SW Adams Street
Peoria, IL 61602
309-676-7688***PIPCO Companies, LTD**1409 W. Altorfer Drive
Peoria, IL 61615
309-692-4060***Precision Mechanical Services**101 E Monroe Street
Morton, IL 61550
309-925-5109***Refrigeration Services**PO Box 109
Morton, IL 61550
309-698-7948***G.A. Rich & Sons**204 S Perry Street
Deer Creek, IL 61733
309-447-6231***Dave Roth Mechanical****106 N. Cedar Street
Washington, IL 61571
309-699-2969***Ruyle Corporation**201 Spring St. Suite B
Peoria, IL 61603
309-674-6644***Test Development Innovators (TDI)**361 Erie Avenue
Morton, IL 61550
309-263-6000***Thermal Mechanical Services, Inc.**2200 W Altorfer Drive
Peoria, IL 61615
309-699-3333***Tobin Brothers**2010 NE Perry
Peoria, IL 61603
309-685-7641**Tri-County Irrigation**405 State Route 117
Goodfield, IL 61742
309-965-2057***Warner Mechanical**9900 Primrose Lane
Edwards, IL 61528***Wayne Mechanical**106 S. Wetmore
Metamora, IL 61548
309-367-2302

* - Mid-Illini Mechanical Contractors Association (MIMCA) contractor

** - Residential Contractors



Steamfitters Local 353

Evan Wooding

Business Manager/Financial Secretary

Tommy O'Brien

Business Agent

Mike Howard

Training Coordinator

www.steamfitters353.com

STEAMFITTERS LOCAL 353

Time tells the story of skill and quality within professional construction. June 2011 marked the 100th anniversary of the AFL granting a charter to Steamfitters Local 353. The central Illinois region has enjoyed the expertise of these members as residents have remained warm in winter and cool in the summer sizzle for the past century.

As technology marches ever onward these 'specialized surgeons of steam' and all things piped, may rest assured they will enjoy continued success thanks to the highest quality preparation and training available. "Technology changes so rapidly now," says Local 353 Business Manager Evan Wooding, "we must stay ahead of the curve."

Renewable energy has moved into the mainstream so the Local 353 comprehensive training program, now offers a multitude of specialized classes as well as the core curriculum of welding, braising, rigging, blueprint reading, and countless others.

The signatory contractors bid jobs at power-generating facilities, chemical plants and more, so they rely on the specialized skills of the members of Local 353 to deliver outstanding craftsmanship as well as superior customer service. When a customer requires process piping or any application of heating and cooling technology the members of Local 353 can provide both the highest quality and 'green' solutions.

All Local 353 apprentices undergo a standard curriculum which includes classes in math, science, drafting, hydronic heating, basic air conditioning and number of certification classes. In addition to providing apprentices the opportunity to complete the rigorous and demanding five-year federal Bureau of Apprenticeship (BAT) training program, which includes 160 hours of classroom instruction annually (800 total) and 8,500 hours on-the-job, the members of Local 353 also enjoy the opportunity to participate in ongoing education throughout their career.

"We commit a tremendous amount of resources to our training," Wooding says, "plus we also place a strong emphasis on safety knowing the signatory contractors and end users remain very concerned about safety on their property and projects."

Apprentice-Training Coordinator Mike Howard adds, "All the apprentices complete the OSHA 10-hour class and the members who serve as a foreman or superintendent must complete the OSHA 30-hour class."

The United Association (UA), the umbrella organization for Steamfitters and others in the pipe trades in both the United States and Canada, has recognized Local 353 and awarded the school the honor of serving as a UA certification center. This distinction allows members of Local 353 and other Locals to complete their testing and carry the specialized card which puts them into the realm of highly-qualified workers. "We have the capability," Wooding says, "of offering certification in heavy rigging, welding procedures, HVACR, valve technology and more."

Local 353 prides itself on responding to both the end user and signatory contractor's needs. As an example, a nuclear power plant requires specialized welders so every worker must be certified. "We can offer almost 60 different types of welding certification," Howard says, "so the member will be qualified to work

on the project." The welders certified at the Local 353 'school' have demonstrated the skills and help form an elite group of specialized professional construction employees.

Thanks to the longtime focus on education and training, the instructors at the Steamfitter 'school' maintain a strict focus on quality and customer service. "Most of the classes we offer," Howard says, "require the instructor to have attended the training required to be certified to teach the class." Every summer, instructors from Local 353 attend 'train the trainer' classes at the UA instructors school held at Washtenaw College in Michigan.

Howard, attends the UA summer school every year and teaches rigging with the emphasis on safety, "A lot of power plants now require anyone who works there to be certified for rigging."

With the current emphasis on 'green' and sustainable energy usage, Local 353 specialists can provide the skills needed for retro-fitting older power plants as well as improvement to existing steam systems and upgrades to the capabilities of the latest in air conditioning technology.

The UA served as a founding member of the Green Mechanical Council and an example of upgrade classes offered for existing Local 353 members, Howard says, "As so many customers now call for sustainable energy usage in January of 2011 we will start offering a 'green awareness' upgrade class for those who hold a journeyman's card."

Local 353 also offers training in the UA Star program which has brought national recognition to the Local. Thanks to the extensive training, the service technicians often make suggestions to not only fix problems, but, also vastly improve a building's energy efficiency.

Customers who require commercial refrigeration installation and service would be left to luck without the members of Local 353, who have performed at the highest skill levels in the industry. It's no secret years ago when Caterpillar started building plants and executive residences in China they sent a member of Local 353, Bob Klein, to the country to

oversee the training of the Chinese workers. Fortunately for the members of Local 353, Klein serves as an instructor at the Local's 'school' where he teaches both the apprentices and the members who return for upgrade classes.

The instructors focus on instilling in each member the importance of finding solutions. This system revolves on a 'whole building' approach to every structure. As professionals, the members of Local 353 will help examine all the various components of a building in their search for both energy efficiency and energy savings.

With an emphasis on sustainability and energy efficiency the Steamfitters of Local 353, "Act as frontline stewards of the natural resources," Wooding says. "That helps preserve those natural resources for generations to come."

Bottom line: The century of success enjoyed by Steamfitters Local 353 represents a concerted effort to maintain outstanding interaction with its signatory contractors and customers according to Wooding "Both historically and currently, Local 353 has always worked in concert with the signatory contractors and the end user in a tri-partite effort to provide the best possible outcome, " adding, "and we will continue to do so."

